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THE WEB OF LIFE.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY ELSIE MAY.

Like a mystic web is this life of ours,
Where figures of light and shade,
By the busy shaft of Time's subtle loom,
Are wondrously interlaid.

And to us alone has the power been given
Of guiding that magic loom,
And to tint the threads that it interweaves
With beauty's unfading bloom.

In the grey hued warp must our fingers place
A woof with rare brightness fraught,
By our hands the web of our inner life
Be firmly and finely wrought.

'Tis a fearful task, and of import great;
For every thread misplaced
Will some beauty mar of that peerless work,
It might have so richly graced.

Let us each with care weave that texture strange,
And strive, with unwearied hand,
That our great life work may, when fully wrought,
Perfected in beauty, stand.

And when each bright thread has been woven in,
And every part well done,
We can give it back to our Master's hand,
For crowns that our toil has won.

LONDON AFTER DARK.

On this Tale is Founded the Popular Drama.

CHAPTER XXIV.

MYSTERY PARTLY SOLVED—THE TEMPTER AND THE TEMPTED.

Having given his instructions to Sharkey Morris and left him to encounter Eliza, Millington hurried with all the speed he could in search of old Tom Boozey.

"The game has commenced; I am now indeed in the very thick of it," thought Millington, "and win or lose, will play it out. But I cannot fail. I am certain to win, for every card is in my favor. If Sharkey should not succeed in persuading that girl Eliza to make herself scarce, old Tom shall rid me of her. As to that meddling fellow, Richard Brandon, he shall no longer trouble me; come to-morrow night and his doom is sealed."

Having reached his associate's establishment a good half hour before the doors would be opened to admit the public, Millington inquired if the man whom he desired to see had yet been there. Told that Old Boozey had not yet shown, but was certain presently to arrive, Millington placed himself on the watch, and in a very few minutes saw Tom shuffling along with his brace of bill boards, announcing the unrivaled entertainment offered to the public at the Nonpareil Music Hall.

"All in good time, here comes the old animated sand wich," said Millington.

And then, accosting Boozey:—

"Get rid of your boards, Tom, and come along with me; I have something particular to say to you."

"To me?" said Tom, appearing considerably surprised.

"Yes, to you. Come along."

Millington led the way to Sharkey's private apartment.

"Sit down, Tom, while I ring the bell and order a little of your favorite refreshment, for I know you do not like dry talking."

"No," hastily cried Boozey, "order nothing for me; I have left off drinking altogether."

"No wonder, then, that you look so dull and miserable. But we will soon alter all that. Bring a bottle of your very best gin," Millington said to the man who answered the bell.

"I shall not touch a drop of it," resolutely said Boozey.

"We'll see all about that, presently," thought Millington.

Boozey was indeed, as the man then with him had just observed, dull and miserable look.

The [illegible] and so far since his promise successful, deprivation of the liquor that had been everything to him, had carried with it a very painful depression, which was greatly increased by his fears that Eliza would not return to him, and that he should once more be left alone in the world. When leaving him that morning to proceed to Mr. Summerford's, the young girl had promised to be with him again in a couple of hours at farthest. Now night had come and she was still absent, and Old Tom, in every sense out of spirits, feared that he should see her no more, and felt extremely wretched as he looked. The bottle of gin having been brought and placed upon the table, Millington filled a couple of glasses, and pushing one of them towards Old Tom, said:—

"There, old boy, drink that, and tell me if you ever tasted better stuff in all your life."

"No, no; not a drop, I tell you," Tom said, with trembling voice, and averting his eyes from the liquor, as if he could not trust himself to look at it.

"Come, drink, man—why, what has come to you!" [illegible] for that. Make haste and let me hear what you have to say to me, that I may be gone."

"Or [illegible] yourself beyond reach of temptation, should you?" laughed Millington.

"If ready you have aught to say to me, speak," impatiently cried Tom.

"Yes," said Millington, slowly and markedly, while his eyes were rivetted with a searching look on Boozey's countenance; "yes, indeed, I have much to say to you, for I have much to talk to you of—of Mary Pritchard!"

Old Tom sprang from his chair, violently exclaiming:—

"No, no, we will not talk of her, we will not talk of Mary Pritchard, because, that—yes, that se's my head splitting, tears my heart in pieces, and—oh! yes, yes, sends me mad!"

Millington having gently pushed him back into his chair, placed in Old Tom's trembling hand one of the glasses that he had filled, and assisted him to raise it to his lips. Tom drained the glass at a single gulp.

"Well done," said Millington; "another, and you will be yourself again, and in a condition to listen to all that I have to say to you."

Taking from Tom's hand the empty glass, Millington replaced it with the second full one. Boozey looked at it, and appeared to hesitate for just a moment, then yielded, and that second glass was drained as quickly as had been the first. Millington smiled with great satisfaction, and proceeded:—

"You must not think that I am like those who sometimes enrage you by uttering that name; they speak without sense or reason, with no idea of what they are talking about."

"And you?" eagerly cried Tom.

"Oh, it is a different thing with me, very different—for I knew her."

"Ah," said Boozey, terribly agitated, "you knew Mary?"

Millington nodded.

"Oh, how beautiful she was, wasn't she?"

"Yes!"

"And good—too good—and so, died young."

"Barely five and twenty."

"That was all."

"Merton was the name of the village in which she dwelt."

"Yes," sighed Boozey.

"And living still and happy, had she been, if her husband had been left to her, to cherish and protect her."

Old Tom burst into tears.

"But one day he was arrested, tried and condemned, and justly so, for he was guilty."

"No, innocent!" exclaimed Tom.

"Well," carelessly said Millington, "innocent or guilty, what does it matter now?"

"Innocent, I tell you! I know it well; I committed not that robbery, have been throughout my life an honest man."

Again Millington's eyes were fixed penetratingly on Old Tom's face, and he was saying to himself:—

"I knew, was sure that it was he!"

And presently he said aloud:—

"Your true name then is Thomas Pritchard?"

"That was my name. Now, I am Old Tom—or Boozey—or anything they like to call me—I know not, care not."

"So, then, it is really you who were sentenced to twenty years penal servitude?"

"Yes," groaned Old Tom. "I am he who has been made so greatly and so unjustly to suffer. I am he whom they snatched from her—from her whom I left behind, and whom—oh, my God—about to become a mother! Such agony, so much suffering for her! Ah, it is perhaps a happiness that she is dead. Yes, when I returned, she had been dead three years."

"And you have been back, I think, two years?"

"Yes."

"And notwithstanding the many years that have passed, you would refuse to pardon the author of her death?"

"Pardon him! oh, never, never!"

"And if you knew him—what would you do?"

"I would kill him!" responded Tom, in a deep, concentrated tone.

"Come, another glass," said Millington, handing it to Boozey, and then, in a hasty, nervous sort of way, swallowed a bumper himself.

During all the foregoing, Millington had filled glass after glass with the gin, which old Boozey had greedily swallowed, and the liquor had not stupified and made him drunk, but had frenzied, made him completely mad.

"Tom," said Millington, "that person to whom your wife owed her death——"

"Well?"

"I know her."

"Her?"

"Yes, it is a woman."

"A woman!"

"Herself less beautiful than Mary, she was envious, jealous—in short, hated her."

"Who is that woman?" eagerly cried Boozey; "who is she?"

"You may, perhaps, if you choose, see her this very evening."

"This evening! Where, tell me where?"

"In St. James' Park—just within Storey's Gate; you know that place?"

"Oh, yes."

"If she comes you will have no difficulty in recognizing her; for she will herself say to you: 'I saw Mary Pritchard die.'"

"Ah," raved forth Tom, "should she say that—woe to her!"

He was hurrying away.

"Where are you going?" called Millington.

"To wait for her," hoarsely replied Boozey.

"Well," said Millington, pointing to the bottle, "there is still some left and you may as well take it with you."

"No, I don't want any more of that, or it will make me too unsteady to use this."

He drew from his pocket and showed to Millington a large clasp knife; and then, shouting forth an oath of vengeance, staggered away.

And when he was gone, Millington, in the coolest possible manner, said to himself:—

"If Eliza has consented to depart alone, the old fellow will have had his walk for nothing. If the girl goes to Storey's Gate, Old Tom, who is just now as mad as the most outrageous patient in Bedlam, will assuredly kill her. Either way she will be deprived of all power to interfere with that which I have determined to accomplish."

Boozey had not been gone many minutes when Sharkey Morris hurried into Millington's presence.

"Now, the girl?" said the latter.

"Couldn't persuade her to anything else, and she is gone to Storey's Gate."

"The fool!" cried Millington.

"And old Tom Boozey?"

"He will be there to meet her."

"And have you done as you said you would?"

"Yes."

"Mercy on us," said Sharkey, perfectly terrified, "then she is a dead woman?"

"She will be, in something less than half an hour, take my word for it, Sharkey," his daring associate very coolly responded. "I am rather sorry; I had quite a fancy for her: but it can't be helped, so we will say no more about it."

CHAPTER XXV.

THE MEETING AT STOREY'S GATE.—AN ELUCIDATION AND A DISCOVERY.

Having reached Storey's Gate, Old Tom placed himself just within the park, to await the coming of the person he had been told to expect. And he was made to wait a considerable time, for great was the distance which Eliza had to travel in order to reach that spot. As the night advanced, few and far between were the passengers through that gate, to or from the park. Leaning against the railings, a few yards away, Boozey was able to observe every one that passed either into or out of the park. And at length, out of all patience:—

"The story of that woman was all a lie," savagely muttered Tom; "like all the rest who have made me their butt, he was playing with me, torturing me for his own sport."

But then he remembered all that Millington had known and told him. The place that Mary Pritchard had inhabited, her age, her death—that man had known and told him all that.

"Yes, yes," said Tom, "it is all true enough, and here I stay, though I should have to wait throughout the night. She will come, I no longer doubt it, and I will kill her. Yes, poor Mary, I will avenge you."

Then, the gin which he that night had taken having by this time considerably weakened in its effect upon his brain, Tom was about to think over the whole matter.

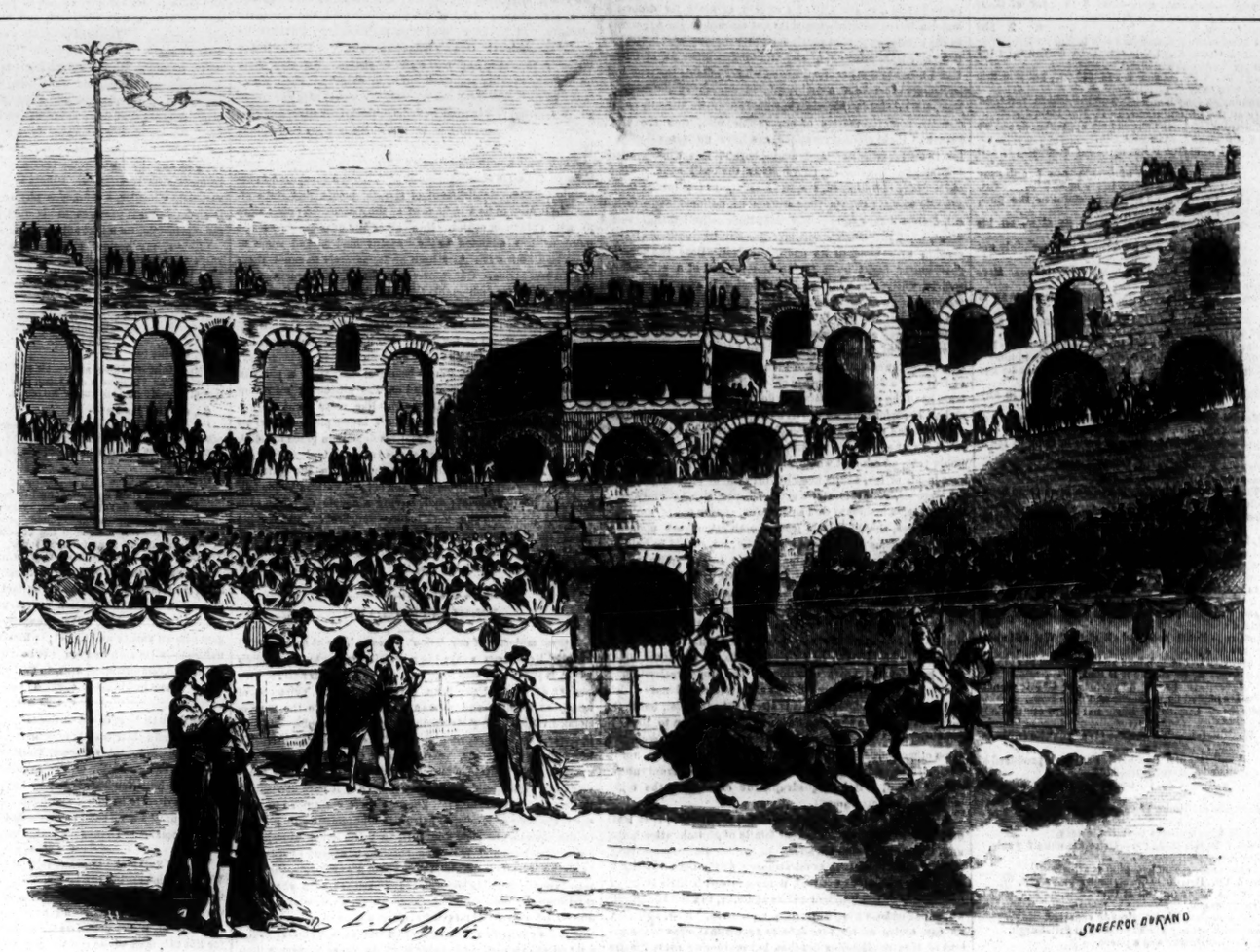
It had already occurred to him that it was something very strange that the woman who had slain his wife should come to that spot for the purpose of avowing her guilt.

"It is a cheat, a shameful trick, and I will remain here no longer."

Just as Old Tom had said that to himself, he perceived a female standing at the entrance to the park, and bending forward as if her eyes were seeking some one.

"That must be she," thought Boozey, "and strange as is the mystery of all this, that man has not lied to me."

Eliza had been compelled to walk the whole distance from The Laurels to the park, and when at last she arrived at the spot to which she had been directed, was in a state of almost complete exhaustion. Nearly prostrated before she commenced that journey, by the



BULL FIGHTING AT NIMES.

emany great emotions of which already in the cours of that day she had been the victim, Eliza had been sustained, and had found strength still to endure by her great love for and eager longing to be again with Walter Brandon. But when Eliza had reached Storey's Gate, and distinguished just within the park a man crouching against the railings, and thought of the words that she was charged to say to him, the courage that had so long sustained seemed all at once to desert her. But she could not retreat with any hope of escape; her strength was too far gone for that. As she stood in mortal dread and now suspecting that she had fallen into a trap which had been prepared to ensnare and perhaps to destroy her, she felt herself rudely seized and dragged within the park.

"Who are you? What would you with me?" Eliza tremblingly said, and was about to shriek aloud.

But hardly had she spoken when—

"That voice!" exclaimed Old Tom; and immediately there was a mutual recognition.

"You! it is you!" cried Eliza, in joyful surprise.

"My poor child, who told you—how did you know that you would find me here?"

"I had not thought that I should see you."

"Indeed! How then?"

"I was told only that I should find here some one who——"

"Some one," excitedly interrupted Boozey; "you—no, no, go away—go away."

"I cannot do that."

"Why can't you?"

"Ah," Eliza reproachfully said, "you have not kept your word with me."

"In what?" Then recollecting—

"Never mind that, but tell me——"

"First tell me, how it is that I find you here."

"Because," jerked forth Tom, "I am waiting to—and here I must remain—for I have work in hand that——"

"What work?"

"No matter; and not before you," he forcibly cried; "go away, go away!"

"He is crazed again with that horrible liquor," thought Eliza.

And then it occurred to her that as old Boozey was waiting there, it must be that, by some strange chance, he it was who had been appointed to conduct her to Walter.

Then she said to Tom:—

"I have already told you that I have been sent here to see some one."

"Oh," shuddered Boozey, "it can't be possible that——"

"What can't be possible?"

"Nothing—go away, I tell you; can't you see that there is no one else, that I am the only person waiting here!"

"'Tis very singular, I cannot understand it!"

"Do not seek to understand, but go away."

"No; for it must mean that 'tis you who know——"

"What?"

"Where he may be found."

"What say you?" said Boozey, wondering and astonished.

"It is to you then that I was to speak; to you that I have been told to say——"

"What?" hoarsely cried Boozey, plunging his hand beneath his vest. "To say what?"

"I saw Mary Pritchard die," slowly and sadly responded Eliza.

Old Tom drew forth his knife, and Eliza uttered a low cry of terror, as he clutched her arm and raised the weapon, as if about to plunge it into her breast. But he did not strike. The hand which held the knife dropped to his side, and the love that had entered his heart for her whose life he had saved contending with the rage that bade him vow to kill her; he faltered:—

"Oh! again! repeat those words! had they been spoken by another than you, already all would have been ended, but you I hesitate, and think, and feel as though I could not, dared not!"

"Be calm; for mercy's sake, be calm!" pleaded Eliza. "Had you not been told that a woman would come to this place?"

"A woman! yes yes, go on."

"That just within the park you were to await her arrival."

"Yes, within the park; go on," hastily muttered Boozey, turning the knife about within his hand.

"And, that when she had said to you—I saw Mary Pritchard die'—you were then to——"

"To kill you," Boozey interrupted with a savage growl, and again raising his knife.

"Spare me! For heaven's sake, listen to me!" cried Eliza sinking on her knees, and extending towards him her clasped hands. "Do not, in the madness of intoxication, become the murderer of a poor, unhappy girl, who, with her whole soul, has learned to love you."

"Love me! miserable wretch! Oh, little did I think when I dragged you from the river that you were a viper that had so cruelly stung me!"

"I was told to say those miserable words, and, as I was made to believe that the greatest, the only happiness I can hope to know on earth depended on my pronouncing them, I consented—and greatly was I amazed that they should be given me to speak, for it is the truth that——"

"That you saw Mary Pritchard die?"

"Yes," mournfully said Eliza, "she was my mother!"

The knife fell from Old Tom's hand and he reeled and clung to the park railings.

"Your mother!—your mother! Oh, my God! my God!" Tom trembulously and inaudibly whispered.

Eliza rose from her knees and sprang towards him.

"Your mother—your mother?" repeated Boozey, and throwing his arms around her, he drew her to his breast.

"Why do you thus gaze upon me?" said the wondering girl; "you but now so menacing and terrible. Wherefore do you thus press me within your arms? you who were about to kill me?"

"Wherefore?" sobbed Tom; "oh, I cannot tell you—I am choking—I cannot speak—the emotion—the joy—the happiness. Your mother!—she—your mother was my wife!"

Those words almost overpowered Eliza.

"Oh, heaven!" she cried "you, then, are——"

"I am Thomas Pritchard!"

Eliza threw herself into his arms, fondly and tenderly, murmuring:—

"My father! My father!"

"Ah," said Tom, "the emotion I experienced when this morning you called me by that name is now accounted for—my heart was whispering to me that you were indeed my child—say father once again!"

"Father," repeated Eliza.

"Ah! how that word soothes and warms me; now, I breathe again—I no longer suffer—and these are joyful tears that I am shedding now! My child, my daughter—it is she," he cried, again and again embracing her, "she to whom my poor Mary was about to give birth when I was torn from her. Oh! heaven! oh, heaven!" and he cast himself upon his knees—"for fifteen years—for fifteen years I have not prayed to you, and yet you have had pity on me, have given my daughter to my arms! Oh, heaven—how great and good—how merciful thou art!"

"Ah, father, never again will we be separated."

"No, never—never; you shall talk to me often of your poor mother!"

"Who taught me to love and cherish you—who in dying, blessed you!"

"Ah, yes, for well did she know that I was not guilty."

"Yes, father, yes—she knew it, and fell a victim to that assurance.

"How say you?"

"Her life was sought by the wretches who slew her, because at last she had obtained, and had in her possession the proof of your innocence."

"The proof of——?"

"And because she had discovered the name of the true culprit?"

"And that was——" eagerly cried Boozey.

"Richard Spencer," replied Eliza.

"I know him not," said Old Tom, "have never before heard that name."

"He it was who had committed that robbery of which you were accused, and for which you have so long and so unjustly suffered; and when my mother, after much seeking and many difficulties, was about to proclaim your innocence, he again it was who murdered my poor mother!"

"And for me she perished! Oh," exclaimed Boozey, "if one day I should find that man——"

"But your name, dear father, will be cleansed from all stain; the injustice beneath which you for so many long years have groaned shall now be made known to the whole world."

"Darling child!"

"Long—very long, have I been seeking you—long have I implored of heaven to restore you to my tenderness, and it is when I had ceased to hope that Providence has reunited us.

"And I, when heaven had sent you to me, was about to kill you!" cried Old Tom, with remorseful agony. "But you know, you saw, darling—did you not? that even while pronouncing those terrible words, I hesitated and trembled. I could not—no, I could not commit that act of vengeance which I had sworn to accomplish. Oh, it was because a voice within my heart commanded me to forbear—because already I loved you—because blood was speaking!"

"But who was it that had accused me?"

"A man named Millington."

"That infamous villain!" said Eliza, shuddering violently, and at once comprehending wherefore Millington had been anxious for her destruction.

"The monster would have had me kill my own daughter! Oh, woe to him—woe to him!" determinedly exclaimed Eliza's father.

CHAPTER XXVI.

THE NONPAREIL MUSIC HALL.—BIRTH AND MURDER.—THE EXPECTED VICTIM.

A very peculiar establishment, as we shall presently be made to understand, was that belonging to Mr. Sharkey Morris, and of which mention has been, during the course of this story, so frequently made. There was the raised stage, with the usual and necessary accessories on which the "Professionals," singers, dancers, and acrobats, displayed their talents to admiring and enthusiastic audiences. By no means, however, a place of fashionable resort; indeed, the very opposite of that, was the Nonpareil Music Hall. In one corner of the room, where scarcely a glimpse of the stage could be obtained, stood a long table, imperfectly covered with a piece of baize whose color had originally been green, but which time and wear had changed to various and indescribable hues. The men seated about that table cared nothing for the entertainment in progress on the stage, being deeply engaged in a very exciting performance of their own.

They were in fact busy with cards and "loo," and "Pam" and "all fours" were the games on hand. And those games were played with tolerable fairness, just because every one engaged in them was an expert cheat. An attempt at "sharping" was almost certain of detection, and anything but agreeable the fate reserved for the culprit. In the centre of the so termed hall, and directly facing the stage, was a very seedy bagatelle table and that also was surrounded with players, for whom the professionals appeared to have no sort of attraction whatever. The audience was not numerous, neither could it be called select, since, among the three dozen or so which formed it, and to the full as respectable as the rest, were several of the gentlemen whose acquaintance we first made at Mr. Poplar's hotel under Blackfriars Bridge.

From this night's entertainment the general public had been excluded, a notice having been posted on the door which stated that the performances were to be under private and special patronage. Nearly every one was smoking and quite every one was drinking; and, to judge by the uproar, everybody must have been talking. The sound of the chairman's hammer, and his announcement that Mr. So-and-so would sing the next song, were scarcely heard at all amidst the din and clatter that prevailed. The talking was not certainly quite so loud and general while the performers were on the stage, which caused to be distinctly audible, at every instant during a sentimental song, the clatter of the bagatelle balls and the thumping on the table of the gentlemen who were playing at "Put." Mr. Poplar and Nat Nickem were playing at bagatelle.

"There," said the former, "I have polished you off again, Mr. Nickem."

"You must have been brought up to it very young, Old Poplar," returned Nat; "and you are such a long 'un that you reach halfway up the board."

"There ain't no occasion for no insulting observations," indignantly cried the proprietor of the Blackfriars hotel.

"Never mind, old boy, I'll try my luck against you once more."

"That's right, Nat, come along. And if I should quite clean you out, as I expect to do, you shall have a bed at my hotel to-night free gratis for nothing."

The chairman at length announced that Mr. Funnieman would oblige with the popular song of "Tommy Dodd."

There was a tremendous hammering on the tables, and for the first time that night something like an attentive audience.

The bagatelle balls ceased to rattle until Mr. Funnieman was done with, and the card players left the table in order that they might assist in the chorus which was sung after each verse of "Tommy Dodd," and in which every one of the audience assisted with all the strength of their lungs.

"Tommy Dodd" concluded the performances and the curtain fell to rise no more that night.

During all this time Millington and Sharkey Morris had been seated apart from the rest in a corner at the extreme end of the hall.

No one had ventured to intrude upon them, and thus removed from the general clamor they were able to hear themselves speak.

Morris was pale and nervous, but Millington seemed as cool and imperturbable as ever.

"But," stammered Sharkey, in reply to something that his associate had just said, "it looks to me dangerous, dreadfully dangerous, and I can't understand how——"

"That I can believe," Millington coolly replied; "but I ask only that you should assist me; whether you understand or not is of very little consequence."

"Oh, but I must and I will understand all about it; I don't mean to run myself into danger; I must see my way clearly; I am a man of property, and want to live to enjoy it."

"You always will be a fool, Sharkey."

"Possibly. But, for all that——"

"Well?"

"Well, shivered Morris, "you have told me that Richard Brandon is this night to be put out of the way, but you haven't told me how, and if I don't know that——"

"Well?"

"Well, if I don't and am not convinced that I shall run no risk, I won't have him come here."

"That I have not already told you in what manner I intend to dispose of Richard Brandon has been out of mercy to you."

"No doubt about it," Sharkey ironically said. "I have had plenty of opportunities of knowing what a merciful chap you are!"

"It is nevertheless true what I tell you. You are so great a coward and have so many qualms of conscience, that I wished on this occasion to spare you."

"Yes, I dare say—very likely—shouldn't wonder!" doubtfully said Sharkey; "but for all that, I should prefer to know——"

"Very well. I need not tell you that the back of this hall of yours touches the wall of the Underground Railway?"

"Why of course I know that vell enough."

"And you also know that a few months ago we made an opening through the wall of one of your cellars, that we might step out upon the railway."

"Don't remind me of that night, pray don't," gasped Sharkey, with a trembling hand seizing and draining to the bottom his glass of brandy and water.

"Those bricks were easily removed, and as easily replaced, and so can be again. When we have quite done with Mr. Richard Brandon, we place him upon the rail; almost as soon as that is done a train passes over and so disfigures him that no one is able to identify his mangled body——"

"Oh, don't, for goodness sake, don't!" stammered Morris.

"The case is reported in the newspapers as suicide by a gentleman unknown—and there is an end of the whole affair."

"Yes, yes, that's right, I see that."

"Well, then, leave off trembling, since I have shown you that you will incur no danger in the business, and that is all you care about."

"Yes, you know, a man's bound to take care of himself, if he can. If a man don't look out for himself, there's nobody else as will look out for him."

"Yes, Sharkey, my boy, I have had good reason to know that you are not very particular as to what you see done, if only your own safety can be assured, and so have never entertained a doubt of your readiness to aid me in the disposal of the gentleman who will presently be here."

"Well, but you know when we have settled with him, we mayn't be a bit nearer what we are working for."

"How is that?"

"Why, as his brother has taken himself out of the way——"

"If it were necessary he could soon be hunted out."

"Well, and of course it will be necessary if we are to go on."

"Not the slightest occasion that we should give ourselves that trouble, since Walter is certain to return to us of his own accord, ready to proceed with that marriage as soon as ever he has learned that his darling Eliza has disappeared. Leave him to me, Sharkey."

"Don't I leave everything and everybody to you?"

"It he will not allow himself to be led he must be driven. But I expect little further trouble with him: never man more eager for all the enjoyments wealth can purchase, nor less inclined to endure the stings of poverty, and even were that girl Eliza still in the way we should now, I believe, find him tractable to our wishes."

"I don't know so much about that."

"Well, at any rate, Miss Eliza will trouble us no more; old Boozey, I feel quite sure, has very effectually silenced her."

"You really believe," trembled Sharkey, "that he has killed the girl?"

"Yes, I well primed him for his work, and sent him to the meeting with her in a state of perfect madness."

"Oh, dear!—you did not tell me that you intended to have her killed—you gave me only to understand——"

"Sharkey, my good fellow, why will you insist on talking of your understanding, when you ought to know well by this time that you have not and have never had any."

"And you can actually cut your jokes now," cried Sharkey, with mingled admiration and terror, "now, when you are preparing to——"

"And why not?" interrupted Millington. "I am not one to play the gloomy ruffian, and, however heavy the work in hand, always try to make it light and pleasant."

"But what has become of Old Tom?"

"I neither know nor care."

"He hasn't been here since you sent him away last night."

"Which is to me a convincing proof that Eliza has perished by his hand."

"Suppose he has been taken?"

"In that case he will certainly be hanged," Millington coolly responded.

"But," anxiously inquired Morris, "won't he be able to implicate us in the business?"

"Sharkey, that question is too ridiculous even for you, who ought to know that I never bungle my work."

Sharkey Morris looked at his watch, and said—

"Ten o'clock, and Richard Brandon not here. Perhaps he won't come at all."

"I feel certain that he will."

"But think what a neighborhood he will be coming to!"

"He will know nothing of that until he has fairly entered it."

"But suppose when he has entered it he should not like its appearance and should turn back and go home again? If I was in his place, that's just what I should do, I am quite sure."

"And just what he will not do; I have taken good care of that."

"How?"

"I have posted sentinels, here and there, in the adjacent streets, who would quickly inform me should he at all hesitate to advance, and then I would hurry out and bring him hither myself."

Just then a man came hurrying into the hall, and running to Millington, gave a sign, which was perfectly well comprehended.

"What did I tell you, Sharkey?" Millington hastily and in a low tone said to the Jew. "He is here!"

"Where?"

"Look!"

Millington pointed towards a door, which had a moment before been thrown wide open, and Morris shivered as he saw the intended victim standing on its threshold. And remaining there, Richard Brandon seemed to hesitate as to whether he should enter the hall, and appeared to be mistrustfully examining the place, and the very far from prepossessing countenances of the individuals assembled then within it.

TO BE CONTINUED.

BULL FIGHTING AT NIMES.

At the recent agricultural exhibition at Nimes, the interest was centred in the bull fight. Despite the exertions of the Inspector General of Agriculture and his assistants, peaceable bulls, fruitful cows, sheep, rams, hogs, machines, etc., were unheeded. The entire interest was diverted to the fighting arena, as shown in our engraving. The heroes of the *fete*, and of whom every one was speaking, were El Yato and his assistant, El Regatelo, the picadores, the chulos, the banderillos, and the entire escort of the Toreados, came expressly from Spain for these *fetes*. Four Alguazils, preceded by an Alcalde, who was undoubtedly a commissary of police, demanded of the Prefect of the Guard, who represented the Ayuntamiento, the key of the *toril*. Then entered the quadrilla, who fiercely made the tour of the arena; then commenced the slaughter of half a dozen magnificent bulls, according to the tradition of glorious Spain. Prodigies of agility, address and *sang froid* were performed usually to the disadvantage of the bulls, of which accounts have already appeared in our columns. Our engraving represents the sport in full play, with the enraged bull in pursuit of his tormentors.

ACTRESSES' HUSBANDS.—There is a sort of well dressed vagabond who strolls about the stage door and side scenes of theatres with the most honorable intentions on the incomes of any clever and well looking actress who may happen to be unmarried. The professional emoluments of a married woman belonging, according to law, to her husband, and failing heiresses, to whom it is somewhat difficult to obtain introductions, perhaps no better bargain can be made by an idle adventurer fond of clothes, cigars, and betting rooms, than a union with a rising singer or actress. These *chevaliers de paresse* wish to be known as "Miss So-and-so's husband." It is almost a profession, and its emoluments can be calculated with more than the certainty of the turf, thus:—"Gloriana" (the name of the actress) makes thirty pounds per week, one thousand five hundred pounds per annum; Gloriana will last—bar accidents, i. e., her popularity will last fifteen years; total, twenty-two thousand five hundred pounds, not reckoning a visit to the United States, which might make more. All this irrespective of gifts, presentations, &c. At the end of fifteen years, her good looks and attractions faded, perhaps gone; then—umph. Considered from a commercial point of view, the actress is almost the equal of the heiress, while she is certain to be more accessible.—*Tom Hood's Comic Annual.*

SLANG.—A painful and puzzled father writes to a London paper regretting a victory won by his son, which gave him more annoyance than any moderate defeat would have done. His boy is at a well known public school and has acquired some reputation as an athlete, purchased, however, at the expense of his literary attainments. Recently, having engaged a cab in the metropolis, on dismissing it the driver objected to the fare, and was insolent. "My son," writes the father, "who had just borrowed what he called a 'half-skie' of me, promptly took up the cudgel, or, in other words, the coarse language of the streets, and metaphorically smote the cabman hip and thigh. 'Were we such a brace of fools,' he asked with indignant fervor, 'as to pay showful prices for riding in a blessed growler? Did the driver think to fummox us by his lip, because he thought we weren't fly to him. He (the driver) must get up earlier and go to bed without getting buffy, which he hadn't done for a week of Sundays, before he found that little game would draw, in the dibs. No more tight that we were, wasn't he?—(with great depth of meaning this)—then what made him so precious fishy about the gifts, if he hadn't been out on the batter the night before?" This the youngster speaks of as the lingo his pals talk at school.

"NOT OUR JIM."—A Rocky Mountain paper publishes an obituary notice of the famous "Jim," chief of the Washoe Indians, who died recently. Jim seems to have possessed many virtues. He is said to have been a good though very dirty red man, who possessed a well balanced head of hair and stomach enough for all he could get to eat. His regard for truth was notable—he never meddled with it. He left no will, and his estate, consisting of a pair of boots, will have to be settled by his heirs through the medium of a game of "old sledge." After life's fitful "fever and ague" Jim sleeps well.

NEW YORK CLIPPER.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1869.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.

Single Copy.....16 cents | Subscription per annum.....$3 00
To Postmaster Dealers...6¢ " " for 6 months.. 1 50
To Retail Agents.....7 " " for 3 months.. 1 25

To clubs of four or more, a deduction of 25 cents will be made from each annual subscription. Subscribers in Canada and the British Provinces, $1 per annum extra, to cover postage.

FRANK QUEEN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR,
No. 12 Spruce street, New York.
Box 3 880 New York P. O.

NOTICE.

ADVERTISEMENTS must hand in their favors before 6 o'clock on Monday evening, in order to have them appear in that week's issue.

To Correspondents.

L. C., Boston.—"A and B are playing cribbage. A plays a seven, B an eight, A a nine and B a six, for which he (B) proceeds to take five points, four for sequence and one for 'go' or last card. A objects to the four points for sequence, because the cards were not played in regular order, the nine having been played before the six. Can B count the four for sequence or not?".....Be can. So long as the sequence is complete, it matters not in what order the cards are played.

LITTLE NED, Saltum re.—1. Sebastian is a good bareback rider, but is not considered champion. 2. It is a good circus, but not the best in this country; it will probably appear in your city in June. 3. Mr. F. Howe is not proprietor. 4. See our dramatic summary. 5. The court have decided that the Railroad Scene is the property of Mr. Daly, and parties using it must pay him for each night's representation.

LOBSTER POINT, New York.—1. The parties throwing 18 are entitled to the first and second prizes, and merely throw off the tie to see who has the first choice. The party who threw 17 has no claim whatever to the second prize. 2. You lose your bet, for the intent and understanding of it was, that your friend had bought his coat in an auction room, which he had not done.

C. W. S., Washington, D. C.—Yes, the police interfered frequently previous to the Heenan and Sayers match. As an instance we cite the case of Tom Maley, who was to have fought Gill (not E. L., but W., *alias* "Paddy") June 13th, 1848, but was apprehended and bound over; second meeting appointed August 20th, 1848, but Gill was arrested and bound over for six months.

LOCUST POINT, Baltimore.—1. We published a portrait of Clotia in the CLIPPER of May 28th, 1864. 2. The Old Bowery holds the most, but the Stadt seats the greater number. 3. Several parties claim the honor. 4. She learnt the snare drum in this city last summer. 5. They are at present living in retirement in Brooklyn.

CONSTANT READER, Ohio.—1. Dexter is by Ryadick's Hambletonian, out of an American star mare, owned by Mr. John Swinn. 2. Patsy Shephard has fought and beat Jones, Sullivan, Con. Riordan; was beaten by Atkinson, and made a draw with Mike Coburn. 3. The paper mentioned is not regarded as an authority on either turf or ring matters.

CHARLOTTE, Baltimore.—1. Mr. Jefferson has one or two children living. 2. They are considered good gymnasts, but not the best in the country. 3. Cannot say when they will reappear in your city. 4. All red is at present in this city; the other brothers are performing in New Orleans. 5. They get sad to it so that it does not make them sick.

H. O. Lynchburg, Va.—1. The time of the two mile race between Nina and Red Eye, on the Fairfield Course, Va., in the summer of 1853 (June meeting), was 3:46-3:54. 2. Nina, Red Eye and Lawson ran four mile heats over the Broad Rock Course, Va., in the Fall meeting (Oct.) of 1853, and not 1854; time, 7:46, 7:48¼, 7:49, Nina winning the second heat.

W. E. H., Nebraska City.—1. The Cincinnati fire department possesses the most powerful apparatus, but the Baltimore department is considered the most effective by those most qualified to judge on the point. 3. The meaning of the expression undoubtedly, is that you could beat him a game of billiards for a stake of $2. Your mental reservation will not avail you.

FIRE FLY.—1. We do not know the lady's age. 2. They will not appear in your city for the present. 3. She is considered the best of the trio in her line of business. 4. Harry does, but we believe his wife is a non-professional. 5. Early in February. 6. He has played in several characters besides "Rip Van Winkle." 7. There is no such champion.

C. F. B., Baltimore.—1. About twenty-two hundred. 2. You can sell them if the manager grants permission. 3. The Hanlon Brothers have a U. S. patent for the manufacture of the two wheel velocipede. 4. Sam is in the south. 5. Cannot say when haggis will visit your city. 6. She is in California at present and has no agent.

INEZ, Washington.—1. Laura Keene was born in England, Henriques in New York, Isabella Hinckly New York, Raphael De Sol a (now at Bryant's) in London, Mrs. John Wood, London, and E. A. Sothern, London. 2. Henry Loraine made his debut in America Dec. 25th, 1856, at the Broadway Theatre, New York, as Claude Melnotte.

CAP, Goshen, Ind.—"C bets B that New York State will go 20 000 Democratic at the last election. Who wins the bet?".....As Hoffman was a democratic candidate, and he had over 20,000 majority, it is our opinion that this State did go 20,000 democratic; consequently C wins.

J. F. C. AND OTHERS, Washington, D. C.—The Hon. John Morrissey was born in Templemore county, Tipperary, Ireland, Feb. 5, 1831. The rough and tumble fight between him and Bill Poole, for $1000, occurred at the Amos street dock, July 27, 1854.

A CONSTANT READER, Augusta, Ga.—1. Deerfoot ran 11 miles, 790 yards, in one hour, Hackney Wick, London, Eng., Jan. 13, 1863. 2. Jackson ran 11 miles, 390 yards, in one hour. 3. Bill Lang ran 2 miles in 9 minutes, 11 seconds.

A SUBSCRIBER, Philadelphia.—Although Daniel M. Fox has taken possession of the office and is now acting as Mayor, the election is still before the courts, and until the case is legally disposed of the wager cannot be paid.

G. W. T.—1. Master Barney is considered the best at present on the stage. 2. John Bogan, who frequently advertises in the CLIPPER, teaches the art. 3. Johnny is the leading comedian at present engaged there.

DICK, Chillicothe.—1. Perry Powers' Circus brought their season to an abrupt termination in Chicago in 1866. 2. Kit North, son of Levi J. North, died in Columbus, Ohio, April 18th, 1867. His last engagement was with Metcalfe's Circus.

NOVICE, Washington.—1. We have no recollection of the trouble you refer to. 2. Her maiden name is Siddons, and she is a great grand daughter of Mrs. Sara Siddons. She married a Mr. Scott.

MONTREAL.—As no referee was appointed, and the judges cannot agree, the race must be run over again unless they mutually agree to a draw. The neglect to select a referee was a great oversight.

C. W. H., Cleveland.—1. We believe it is the same Clarke you mention. 2. The advertisement makes three lines and will cost you $5 each week. Duplicate the advertisement if you wish it inserted.

F. J. W., Washington.—We cannot inform you when it was first sung, but it has been popular in the London Music Halls for some time, long before W. H. Lingard was ever heard of in this country.

NEW HAT, Chicago.—"In a four-handed game of euchre my partner orders up the trump and plays it alone. The dealer claims the right to play alone against him, and to count four if he wins all the tricks. Can he do so?".....No.

ALEX. MCCLUE, Pittsburgh, Pa.—1. No; Lang and Richards' dead heat was made in the quickest time upon record, level. Lang ran a mile in 4 minutes 2 seconds down hill. 3. Sayers beat Jack Martin in 23 rounds, 55 minutes, Jan. 26 h., 1853.

C. H. W., Cambridgeport.—1. One dollar is the charge. 2. It is done owing to custom, besides all theatres do not have their stages built exactly alike. 3. No such work has ever been published.

FORDHAM.—"A and B, in a game of euchre, agree that the player who cuts the best euchre card deals; A cuts the ace and B the Jack. Who is entitled to the deal?".....B, with his Jack, is entitled to the deal.

T. J., Pittsburgh.—The following are the winners, in succession, of the English Derby, since 1830. Thormanby, Kettledrum Caractacus, Macaroni, Blair Athol, Gladiateur, Lord Lyon, Hermit and Blue Gown.

W. D. C., Lunkhannock, Pa.—1. Flora Temple is 24 years old next April. 2. She fare to California is not always the same. First cabin, $225; 2d cabin, $150; steerage, $75; are the rates now.

KEE H., Chicago.—1. Giving puppies whisky sometimes but not always has the effect mentioned, but it invariably ruins their constitutional health. Don't try the experiment. 3. Maggie Mitchell is not married.

J. C. K., Amboy, N. J.—The limits of the different fighting weights are as follows:—Feather, up to 8st or 112lbs.; light, up to 9st. 7lbs. or 133lbs.; middle, up to 11st. or 154lbs.; heavy, all above 154lbs. 2. No brother.

CONSTANT READER, Omaha.—1. Before his inauguration Gen. Grant will have to resign his military position. 2. A having drawn three cards is compelled to take them, and discard three out of his hand.

LEO, Port Byron.—1. Make personal application to the stage manager during the day. 2. She is traveling with a dramatic company through the West. 3. Twelve lines will cost you $21 60.

S. H. V., Montreal, C. E.—The race should be run over, and, in case one of the men refuses to run, the stakes should be awarded to the man who is willing, unless they mutually agree to draw the money.

S. N. W.—1. There are several good female clog dancers. 2. Jennie Benham. 3. Helene Smith. 4. With the Carter Zouave Troupe. 5. To Mr. Cooke, ballad singer.

W. J. R., Elmira.—1. If you saw a first class performer, it is a good business. 2. There are not the best clog dancers in the business. From $30 to $60 a week.

C. H. HAMLIN, Bloomington.—1. There are no entries by that name in the "City Directory." 2. Yes, to both questions. 3. Yes. 4. Yes; Gunther, C. G. & Sons, 503 and 504 Broadway.

J. H. R., Cohoes, N. Y.—Bill Poole weighed 157 pounds, but we do not know whether that was his exact weight at the period you mention.

W. H. S., Washington, D. C.—Numerous times. Tom Parker beat Tom Britton, adjourned fight, May 8 h, 1838; Britton was arrested and bound over for twelve months.

INQUIRER, Pittsburgh.—1. For one insertion 45 cts. For 3 months, cash in advance, $4.50. 2. Joseph Proctor is still on the stage.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—As there was evidently a misunderstanding in regard to the terms of the bet, the money should be drawn.

ISAAC NICHOLS.—"A and B are playing a game of seven up. A turns up a four of spades, B begs and A runs and turns up Jack of same suit. Does that Jack count or not?".....Yes.

PHILADELPHIA.—1. Four aces beat a straight flush. 2. The District of Columbia does not belong to any State; it possesses an independent jurisdiction of its own.

READER, Harrisburg.—1. We know nothing of the gray colding Samaraca, and cannot tell you his best time. 2. Legal Tender's 1:44 is the fastest mile record in America.

ARRIE, Boston.—J. Payne Collier's notes and emendations to the text of Shakespeare, published by Redfield, at 110 and 112 Nassau street, this city, in 1853, is what you want.

M. D. C., Ohio.—Jane Lee never appeared on the stage since her marriage. She was an ordinary stock actress, and there are a great many on the stage whose style resembles hers.

READER, Salem, O.—1. You cannot obtain them anywhere. 2. Sayers fought sixteen times and was defeated but once—by Nat Langham.

F. P., Washington, D. C.—1. Write to the secretary of the club, care of this office. 2. There is no work published in this country upon the subject which we can recommend.

W. J. S.—Seventy-five yards, 9 seconds; two hundred and twenty yards, 28 seconds; quarter mile, 1 minute, 2 seconds; half mile, 2 minutes, 36 seconds. Thanks.

J. H. M., Philadelphia.—Two sixes and three trays count eighteen at cribbage, viz.:—ten by fifteens, six for pair royal and two for a pair.

CONSTANT READER.—On Dec. 8th, 1842, he was first exhibited in this city at Barnum's Museum. He is said to have been born in January, 1832.

N. Y. WORLD, Baltimore.—1. It will seat about 1,600 people. 2. Dan Rice is still living. 3. Lotta is the most profitable one. 4. Not again this season, as he goes to California shortly.

A. L., Portsmouth.—1. Morrissey and Heenan fought in 1858 not 1859. 2. Glad at ur never belonged to Mr. Ten Broeck. You are therefore wrong on both points.

C. E. M., St. Louis.—You having failed to make the three points you gave for the push, pass your score back to seven, for you cannot count the point you made with the ace.

A. M., Allegheny City, Pa.—Slocum for Seymour got 429,883 votes, and Roberts for Grant got 419,883, making the majority exactly 10,000.

DOWN EAST BOY.—1. We cannot give you the precise time; 2 hours and 26 minutes had elapsed at the close of the 100th round, and twenty more rounds were fought. 2. Poole.

CHARLES M., York, Eng.—Letter received. All's well. Will reply soon.

CURIOUS, Springfield.—1. Purchase a copy of Davidge's Footlight Flashes, from the American News Company, this city. 2. Morris is not married. 3. Mr. Nathan resides in this city.

"CLAY," Philadelphia.—The position is filled at present. Most of the teams in years of the 9th you will find in last week's paper, issued on the 8 h.

TRAVELER, Chicago.—Thanks for your offer, but we have correspondents in nearly all parts of the country, so that your kindly proffered services need not be taxed.

J. F., Philadelphia.—He cannot order it down on his partner's deal and then play it alone on the same trump as turned up.

ANTHONY, Lewiston.—1. They were the first to make a double clog a specialty. 2. We do not know whether he is married or not.

J. N. H., Pittsburgh.—1. In seven-up the non-dealer scores game in the event of a tie. 2. The player on the right of the dealer must cut he cards if you insist on it.

BILLY, the Kid.—1. Yes. 2. Don't know. 3. There are none. 4. At Tony Pastor's, in this city. 5. Hughy Dougherty.

GANDY, Syracuse, N. Y.—1. The Mutuals played the Nationals of Albany, last season. 2. The Nationals never defeated the Mutuals.

M. R., Jr., Troy, N. Y.—The rule says the ball must be held on the base before the striker reaches it.

NED, of Nashville.—The draught horse is stronger than the ox.

GREYHOUND, Rochester, N. Y.—Address Stephen Roberts, care of this office.

RED RIDING HOOD, Bordentown, N. J.—Will answer your questions next week.

JIMMY MCE., Winchester, Pa.—Accept the challenge already issued and post, and then it will savor of business.

SINGER AND SNUDER, Easton, Pa.—A having low goes out first, low counting before high game.

H. E.—We never read such a statement in any paper. It is absurd to suppose that such is the case.

ROBERT.—A strike each time, in a string of ten frames, twelve balls, counts 300.

JOHN COOK, Paw Paw, Mich.—As the official returns are the only figures to be governed by, J. M. won.

DON, Newburgh.—Bets have been decided in favor of those who went their pile on Seymour's majority.

COUNT, Charlestown, Mass.—1. It is a sequence. 2. The dealer's right hand man cuts, and he deals to the left.

MELVILLE GLEE CLUB, St. Louis.—1. Who do you refer to? 2. We cannot give the private address of actresses.

NEWARK.—At the last census it was 815,000, but now it is said to be over 1,000,000.

OLD SUBSCRIBER, Plymouth.—Boston and Fashion ran their celebrated race on the Union Course, L. I., May 10th, 1842.

EDWARD, Cincinnati.—Your offer is duly appreciated, but we already have a correspondent in your city.

T. F. H.—Your local sketch is not up to our standard, and it is therefore respectfully declined.

I. W. S., St. Louis.—"In a game of euchre can I order my opponent up when I have not a trump in my hand?".....Yes.

HOMER.—B's hand is foul, and he has no claim to the pool, nor can he withdraw what he put in.

A SUBSCRIBER, Cincinnati.—You cannot go alone on his make.

SMITHERS, Troy.—He is a clever performer, but certainly not the most expert in the business.

ROCKS, Baltimore.—He would probably have Matter Moss loaning him his umbrella.

A. B., Boston.—Care Arlington Hall, Chicago, is the way to address him.

FREDERICK WEMBS, Davenport, Ia.—For three months, cash in advance, $7.80.

L. AND B, Sag Harbor.—None but the eldest hand or age has the privilege of going blind; therefore C could not go blind.

G. H. P., Escanaba.—We cannot inform you whether he has any or not.

FRANK, Buffalo.—We never employ traveling agents in any capacity.

RICHARD, Wood's Run.—We believe she appears in Pittsburgh in a few weeks.

T. H., Chicago.—Barney Fisherly was born in Cork in 1823. He is a brother-in-law.

F. S. M.—We sent your letter to Mr. Harrison, who is with a dramatic company at Charleston, S. C.

HENRY G. THOMPSON, Baltimore, Md.—We have some back numbers of volume XV.

A SUBSCRIBER.—1. Frank Ambrose. 2. We cannot inform you.

A NEW HAT, St. Louis.—B will return A his money and pay for we hats himself if he is an honorable man.

PETROLEUM CENTRE.—We cannot give you the address of any manufacturer of air guns.

BILLY MCGRAW, Chicago, Ill.—1. Coburn, if there was any choice between them. 2. Three times.

GARRIGUE AND EVERHAM, Chicago.—For three months, cash in advance, $12 48.

N. C. F., Auburn.—Draft received all right. We calculate 18 weeks for three hundred.

FATTY, Baltimore.—1. Three Kings and two nines beat three Queens and two aces. 2. Of course it is foul.

C. H. C., Lockport.—If he is a performer of any consequence, articles are signed by manager and performer.

O. B. S., Allegheny City.—We have not heard of the lady for some time.

NAMELESS, Washington.—We cannot give you the information you seek.

SEVAN, Detroit.—"Humpty Dumpty" was first produced at the Olympic, in this city, March 30th, 1867.

D. D. D., Wood's Run.—He is traveling with a minstrel party bearing his name.

STEW.—Gertrude is said to be 19 years of age.

E. S. A., Crompton.—We do not know the lady.

ALPHA.—In raffles, three sixes beat three aces.

GEORGE DAWSON, Morris Run, Pa.—There are none for sale.

SHORTY.—The first Jack counted.

CHICKTO, Canandagua.—Your pedigree is all wrong.

WHITEMORE & CO., Detroit.—Cash received all right.

JAMES MCKAY.—A letter for you at this office.

G. T. A.—Ten thousand.

O. F. B. C., Pittsburgh.—We are already supplied.

M. C. C., Baltimore.—They are at present in Pittsburgh.

NASSAU, Brooklyn.—Drover was a pacer.

DICK.—Fifty dollars.

BROADWAY A QUARTER OF A CENTURY SINCE.

It seems but yesterday that our noblest of avenues, Broadway—now shrunken to quite a narrow thoroughfare, owing to the majestic height of the buildings and the increasing encroachments of business—was the favorite promenade of all the belles and beaux and all the notabilities of the town. Did a popular leader, or actor, or author desire to be seen, he must go upon Broadway. Did an editor desire to find material for his gossip or to aid for reflection, he must seek it on Broadway. Did a lover wish an interview with his mistress, it was thither he resorted. And did an injured party demand redress for real or fancied wrong, at the point of the cowhide, it was on the fashionable side of Broadway that he flourished it. People were then beginning to hear of one Stewart, who occupied a comparatively mean little place on Broadway, near Murray street. The Castle Garden, as a place of public amusement, was still in vogue, under the management, about that time, of French and Heiser, soon to be immortalized by the *debut* of Jenny Lind—flaring up into unusual brilliancy for that purpose like a candle on the point of going out forever. In those days, although not very remote, the idea of its degenerating into the common sewer of dirt and filthiness which it has since become, was never entertained. The Battery was still a favorite resort of young and old, although the begins upownward was commencing. Loungers used to refresh themselves by a plunge in Robinson's baths, alongside the bridge, and enjoy a subsequent hour over punch and cigars, in an arm chair, in front of Pete Bayard's, listening in the evenings to the "fairy-like music" of the band. About these days New York had a spell of cholera, and it was in the doorway of Robinson's that Billy Vache, the eccentric comedian of the Broadway Theatre, passed all of his time not devoted to rehearsals or acting, being actually *frightened* into the cholera, and dying of it at last. Stephen Whitney, General Morton, and several of our leading merchant princes, yet resided in the fine brick mansions now devoted to purposes of trade. The Old Washington Headquarters, considered one of the most symmetrical edifices in the city, was beginning to be looked after as a promising investment by prominent hotel keepers, and finally passed in to the hands of Wash Hartlett and his brother, from the Bowery. Many of the leading hotels were situate within a few blocks, the City Hotel still rearing its solid walls, with the Boston Francaise adjoining. Opposite was Guerin's famous confectionary, where one might get cakes that would melt in his mouth, and brandy that had not felt the deteriorating effect of excise laws. Scudder's was still the Museum at the corner of Ann and Park Row, of which the leading feature was Adrien, the magician, one of that good old school whom the Hellers and Houdins of our time so completely throw into the shade. Harrington was there with his Diaramas, and there, in the basement, was Peter Stelle's terrapin lunch, where aldermen resorted. Poole's Museum exhibited its stereotyped curiosities. Shades houses were frequented in Thames street, by Trinity Church and the alleys diverging. The consecration of the present fane (the third on that site), took place in the latter part of May, 1846, when all the eminent Episcopal divines (who were a peaceable set, with no ritualism to quarrel over) were present, and among the choir figured such names as those of Dr. Hodges (organist), Mrs. Loder, Mrs. Bostwick, Miss Sinclair, Mr. Musset (the present "Jeems Pipes"), Mr. Leach (now a leading vocalist of San Francisco), Mr. Kyle, Mr. Watson, Mr. George Loder—whom everybody knew, and, knowing, loved. George P. Morris, if we remember aright, wrote an "Ode," and on a certain summer's morning we first listened to the chimes just imported for the belfry. Columbia College and grounds closed the access from Park Place to Robinson street. The old Jail and Bridewell, which stood cheek-by-jowl with the City Hall, had but recently been demolished, and the day of the "old leather-heads" (helmeted policemen) was but latterly over. In Chambers street, near Broadway, was the office of the fashionable dentist, Dr. Burdell; near it, on the same street, was Palmo's brilliant *cafe*, where he builded his Opera House, which entered into Burton's Theatre, where that ecomed an made his first pecuniary success, and John Brougham flourished. (Dear, dear! how old we are getting, all of us!) The Park Theatre was jubilant in the presence of Fanny Kemble, Madame Augusta (the Countess St. James), and the Siguins and Mowers, with Sweet Mary Taylor in the *ballet;* and don't we remember how a whole house "came down" over her singing of "Fill the Cup with Rosy Wine?" Where all There was yet the old "Café des Milles Colonnes" of Pinteux, and opposite the City Hospital, District Attorney Wilding ("Little Bitters" the lawyers called him) owned some houses which at Hamblin's instigation he converted into the first Bowery Theatre, where Forrest and Madame Ponisi, and Wallack, and pretty Rose Telbin subsequently flourished. The French Opera Troupe, with Calve for prima donna and Gung'l for leader (think of Gungle!) was trying to electrify the *dilettanti*. Here was the Broadway Tabernacle, owned by Deacon Hyde of the *Journal of Commerce*, where Ole Bull, Vieuxtemps, Sivori, and Burke gave their concerts; and orations were frequently given. Contoit's Garden was yet popular. Above, adjoining Mitchell's Olympic, was Tattersall's horse mart, and above this little or nothing worthy of notice. Gazing upon the rows of magnificent structures which now line the sides of that compressus thoroughfare, and remembering what it was in times not long vanished, one can only raise his hands and eyes in astonishment and exclaim, "what a change!"

ANOTHER PIOUS SQUEAL.

The Young Men's Christian Union, even within their ornamental audience chambers in their palace on the Fifth avenue, are in a peck of trouble, should we deem authentic the published reports of the opinions expressed by the clerical guardians of that aristocratic *esterie*. The Union, which, by the way, boasts a very expensive and ultra-gorgeous method of advertising its existence, is at present in a state of exclitement at the discovery made by one of its missionaries, that a vast majority of New Yorkers are not in the habit of attending the regular temples dedicated to divine worship. And what's worse, suggested one of the luminaries, the common people of the metropolis have the habit of attending theatres, which he denounced, after the manner of habitual Pharisees, as a most expensive and useless amusement. To counteract the tendency of the popular preference, a philosophical exhorter urged the extension of the missionary system, so that the stray of the fold may be wooed back to the pure milk of the Mother Church, and this idea struck the congregated wisdom of the Union as perfection in sagacity. A political economist, when arguing rationally upon the force of moral principles, generally confines his demonstrations to the product of statistical investigation, but ministers of the gospel, we regret to say, do not believe in the adage that figures cannot lie; on the contrary, anything like a mathematical calculation rarely enters into their minds when fervently denouncing the existence of that which they are pleased to term an evil, whose presence is more apparent than real.

When a preacher holds forth against the prevalence of theatrical amusements and their extravagance as to pecuniary cost to the individual, he forgets that the entire sum annually expended by a community of a million of souls for dramatic and musical entertainments does not amount in the aggregate to the monies expended yearly for the religious specialties of Bible and tract printing, of city and foreign missions, of Christian Unions and other institutions wholly outside the true and legitimate province of a well regulated church establishment. Now, the monies in this wise expended are drawn, directly or indirectly, from the masses of our people, who, from the very nature of these clerical creations, can have no personal return for their investment. And again, beyond this consideration four-fifths of the monies, enormous as they will appear, when statistically investigated, are, in an economical point of view, actually wasted; that is, the government, national, State or local, derives little or no revenue from their collection and investment, while the establishments enjoy the immunities of citizenship with none of its onerous duties. Does the general government insist upon taxing the income of a missionary society, while the hand of the collector is placed upon the treasury of an insurance or banking company, even those for the savings of the poor?

But when we come to institute a comparison between the immense value of church property on this island and the prodigal salaries bestowed upon popular preachers, and the actual worth of real estate devoted to public entertainments, with an estimate as to the niggardly stipends doled out to actors, musicians and other performers, we will at once perceive that, were the expense divided *pro rata* between church goers and theatre goers relatively, the former expends, actually and absolutely, in one single year, an amount which the other cannot possibly contribute inside of ten, at the most liberal rate of patronage. And yet, were we, with this statistical evidence staring every man in the face, to insinuate that a poor man, or even one of the middling classes, should abstain from church attendance upon the score of economy and duty to his family, we should be held up as the wickedest of reprobates, willing to jeopardize man's souls for dollars and cents. Our clerical friends would undoubtedly arrive at this conclusion through a little sophomorical reasoning, based, however, upon false logic.

For an intelligent man to visit a theatre and there listen to the divine language of Shakespeare as enunciated and made manifest to his capacity by Forrest, Booth, or any other actor who has devoted years of study for the proper realization of his profession, must be regarded as an intellectual luxury which he is instructed to forego, as it is attendant with cost, but to resort habitually to a church edifice and therein listen to the expounding of the Scriptures by the Rev Henry Ward Beecher or some other learned divine is declared to be a moral duty, not to be neglected under penalty of jeopardising your eternal future, even if it cost, as it does, quadruple the expense of the other intellectual entertainment.

The average cost of pew rental alone, in this city, is at least one hundred and fifty dollars per family of church attendants, and, when to this sum are added the incidentals accompanying persistent worship, such as missionary contributions, donations, and a host of minor exactions, it augments with little exertion to double, say three hundred dollars annually, to attend a church, whose pastor boasts anything of a reputation. Now, although we can arrive at no very definite approximate on as to the extent of theatre-attending families, but presuming every theatre crowded to repletion, it can be estimated that the average of expenses annually incurred for theatrical and musical entertainments cannot exceed fifty dollars per family. Indeed, it would require a single individual to visit a theatre every night of performance the year round to reach the family average demanded to support church membership. We are aware that mathematical calculations oftentimes surprise an irreflective speculator on abstruse points, but facts are stubborn things and when properly arranged do much to dispel popular delusions.

But, says the Christian Unionist, there are free churches, cheap churches and open air missions, and still people will not attend even these economical contrivances, while they pay to go into theatres. And are we most decidedly, they do, when they receive the worth of their money, and say further, most decidedly they would not were such not the case, for musicals are obstinate and self-opinionated, and regarding, as most do, preaching as a branch of trade, they are willing to pay liberally for the quality of the commodity vended; in fact, the very term free is obnoxious to the personal pride of a sensitive man, who feels its application a disturbing mark of caste and an insult, aggravating the misfortune of poverty.

Any one who has watched the complexion of popular religious movements of late can detect that there exists a latent desire on the part of a portion of the religious community to revive a fruitless, but vexatious, agitation against the drama and collateral amusements. At the present moment it is apparently unsanctioned by the most luminous digni aries of ecclesiasticism; but if the turmoil be not suppressed at its inception these men will be cowed, through popular clamor, to lend their countenance to a crusade, which, however disconsonant it may be to their personal convictions, partakes of a character intimately allied to their calling, that is their bread and butter. We have already seen the Rev. Mr. Fox as fugleman to the advancing army, the pioneer of an obscure body who believe that when the cauldron of intolerance is well set a-boiling, they will ascend from the dregs at the bottom and shine for a while upon the surface of troubled waters.

In the event of the Puritanical spirit which, a few years back, obtained a temporary mastery over the sober thought of the community, being re-evoked, there can be no doubt as to the ultimate result of the controversy; still it is far preferable for all concerned, that no such agitation should be encouraged or suffered to be inaugurated, for the frenzy of weak-minded bigotry is contagious, although never permanent. To a mo y is within the province of imbecility, to recreate requires the work of time, and consequently the arm of assault should be paralyzed at the outset. A lunatic destroyed the Temple of Ephesus, the architectural marvel of the world, and how many wise men will suffer by a similar act of folly.

"MADE UP."

One hears a vast deal of twaddle on every side on the subject of made up men and women. A great part on of the ridiculous lewled against those whose only sin is in resisting the encroachments of age and doing what little they can to conceal its ravages, comes from people who are scarcely employing the self same artifices, and who fondly dream that they are successful in disguising the cheat. Not long since a well known charac er was in the daily habit of walking Broadway, whose glossy, jet black hair and upright bearing were the admiration of all beholders. But on a certain occasion he was observed, while standing in a group of idlers, to collapse and fall suddenly to the ground. "What was it?" asked a bystander; "vertigo?"; "Rupture?" asked another. "Blood vessel?" "No," replied the victim, faintly; "it was only my *stays!*" Our dandy had for a long time escaped detection by sneering at others, but his turn had come at last, and it was found that he was the most elaborately "made up" man in town. A lady found herself in an equally awkward dilemma, who had been in the habit of jeering at those of her sex who preferred the artificial bloom imparted by rouge to the fresh tints of nature, and whose own countenance was a model of transparency and health. But one fatal evening she made her appearance at a party with a face which, under the influence of heat, was rapidly changing from ruddy red to crimson, and finally to purple. A single glance at a mirror elicited a shriek, and caused her fainting upon a sofa. "A rush of blood to the head," "asphyxia," "apoplexy" ran through the crowd. "No, the wrong flask," she unconsciously murmured; and it was thought she had taken poison. So she had outwardly, for, in summoning her own face, as usual, she had got hold of the wrong chemicals, and before she had been an hour in the room, she was black as the ace of spades. The unfortunate had no more supposed her complexion to be artificial than that the swelling bust which acted as a breastwork to her charms was a network of springs and wires, even to the heart which so gently palpitated beneath her undulating bosom. If the practice of indulging in transformation were confined to those who feel that their charms are waning, the case might not be so bad, but, the worst of it is, the young and the comely are falling into the habit of indulging in this excess of decoration and display, the effect being usually the opposite of that intended. The matter of personal improvement is one that is accorded a wide latitude, and whatever may be said of the want of taste sometimes displayed, no one can deny that, exercised with judgment, he resort is fully justifiable, since it is merely putting in practice the idea of beautifying that by which we see most store and which is most worthy of preservation. Only, it must be admitted that there is such a thing as going too far in this, as in other matters, and that it is at least superfluous to gild the lily and adorn the rose.

SKATORIAL.

The world progresses, and not alone in what are known as the useful inventions. We have only to look at our sports and pastimes to see the old adage verified. The crude, half learned games of ball, full of contention and dispute, because not bound by strict rules, have given place to our precise, elegant national game, which, to witness, is as pleasurable as any other athletic exhibition. Farmers of twenty years ago would have pronounced a man crazy who would say that a horse could be made to trot his mile in less than 2:20. But it has been done for all that; and the remarkable speed of that day has become almost an ordinary gait for our thoroughbreds.

We daily refine as well as improve in our amusements, and probably no better example can be instanced of this than skating. We all know what skating was a dozen years ago or more. The very thought of it is enough to send a cold thrill through any but a genuine enthusiast. Bleak, open ponds, or long sweeps of river, with the winds blowing small hurricanes down the bed of the stream, and the banks looking "blue" in their cold crust of dry snow, a seat on the ice while fastening on your skates, with fingers benumbed and feeling thick as thumbs; wrenching your ankles out of joint in a vain endeavor to get the skates firmly on your feet; and just as you have the strap drawn up to the right point, finding the buckle-holes do not extend up so far and that you will have to spend a fraction of a life-time cutting new holes, with an excellent prospect of slashing your strap in two. You sit too long, and such a cold seat is apt to give one a cold in the head.

We still have our country skating; cold, open stretches of ice are still to be met with as in the days of the past. Cold seats are not entirely unknown, even in these days of progress. We saw a letter from a young lady in the country the other day, in which she complained of this identical thing, and also spoke sorrowfully of having no beaux to put on her skates. But then the skates themselves! One no longer has to ruin either his feet or his boots, thanks to improved style of skates. We clap them on with the rapidity and precision of machinery. The ungainly straps no longer give one's pedals the aspect of a convict in the penitentiary. Far from it; indeed, the bright silver and glistening steel form a thing of beauty which is a joy forever—as long as the ball is up for skating.

When we come to our cities we have more changes to note than in the mere skates themselves. What a revolution in society has the establishment of private ponds and rinks effected. It used to be a sight to make the astonished public stare to see a lady on skates. Now all of the dear creatures are more or less addicted to the crescent blades, and some of them task their sterner brethren pretty severely to equal them in skill and daring. Our resorts being lit up, they become fashionable places for fashionable folk, after supper. Our theatrical managerial friends can attest this, to their sorrow; for skating has a fascination that is sometimes stronger than the attraction of even a Booth or Jefferson. We have balls, masquerades, everything, even to base-ball matches, on the ice now-a-days; and we cannot imagine a more beautiful sight than a party in fantastic dresses, floating around on the glistening mirror of ice. Yes, skating is fascinating—but like most human pleasures, it has its drawbacks. There isn't much pleasure for an awkward fellow; he can't conceal his defects in grace or skill, and has to take with good humor the laughs raised at his expense. Then if a fellow falls, and something in the garment line gives way—it is terrible to think of! "Doesticks" once fell and burst his pantaloons; and, having a couple of ladies with him, had to pretend that both his legs were broken, and sent his "gals" for doctors. But that was off on a large pond. That wouldn't work in a rink. There would be too many about to pick the sufferer up, and expose the flimsy dodge—and himself too, probably.

ENCHANTED LAND.

A great majority of our fellow humans have at some period in their lives been swayed to a certain extent by the feeling which is poetically said to invest every object in nature with *couleur de rose*. There is an early stage in the existence of nearly every man and woman which appears to the inexperienced vision to be gilded with a perpetual sunlight, and has, therefore, been appropriately termed the morning of life. We know there are people, very useful in their way, who frown upon all such inclinings as not being practical in their tendency, but what would this world be worth if it were exclusively made up of "Gradgrinds?" Suppose there were none to wear costly clothing or jewels, to patronize amusements, to partake of the pleasures of field and turf, to drink good wines, or to give entertainments? What would become of us, and where would be all the princely mansions, the works of art and taste, the institutions of far-reaching benevolence and science, with which this goodseme city doth abound? Yes—where, even, would be the fine fat salaries of our favorite clergymen, and, consequently, where the clergymen themselves? Echo answers briskly—digging potato patches and doing work in other vineyards than those of the Lord; for your modern clergyman has a most human hankering after the leaves and fishes—the flesh pots of Egypt. We have seen specimens of the "marvelously proper" sort of young man, but the impression never strikes us favorably. They remind you of people who have grown old before their time—or, rather, who have never been young at all. It is on record (and we have known men of maturer years to admit it in their social moments), that many of our ablest divines and pillars of society were as wild as they make them, in their college days, and used to raise particular Sam with the cause of morals when a boat race was to come off or a spree was on the carpet, and we suppose the thing is going on yet, to the great scandal of the several localities. "I know, dad, it's very bad to be wicked, but there's lots of fun in it!" said a certain young scapegrace, when his paternal sponsor had subjected him to an overhauling. When the Old Ebenezer is in, all the ecclesiastical shovels in the world won't dyke him up, and the best thing to do is to let him out and give him fair scope; the more energetically he goes at it the sooner he'll tire—and that should be consolation enough for the wordly. Are there not man among the readers of this—people who take the world quietly enough now—who would gladly give all they have made for a genuine sensation? To take the field on a morning when all nature herself seems to have put on her most enticing garb to allure—when she wmks at you from account books and ledgers, and provokingly seems to say, "Come!" What a glorious the clover scented breeze that stirs the leaves and fills the swelling sail, leaving a crested ripple on the clear blue waters. What an exhilaration, not to say enchantment, in the sports of the turf, the balling ground, or the chase! What fascination in the billiard cue or the quiet game of chess—next to that, the game of *all* games—the "royal game!" Can't we all remember the delight with which, in the crowded theatre or circus, we first inhaled the smell of peanuts and orange peel, and how we should have resented any attempt at getting along without them? When pieces like the "Blood Red Knight," or "Timour the Tartar," thrilled us with ecstasy or made the hair stand on end—at which we now laugh, and wonder at our complaisance. When *bal d'* girls were angels and we made it a point to fall in love with 'em regular, as fast as they came be one us. We have had glimpses behind the scenes since then, and have variously "been there," but, although a slice of the old flavor still lingers, it lacks the "bead" which gave the old wine its flavor, and we are obliged to put up with "cabinet," and con ent ourselves with reminiscences of sparkling Moselle.

NARROW ESCAPE.—The other day, as a farmer was driving across a railroad track, his horse suddenly stopped, and refused to budge an inch. A train was rapidly approaching, and considerable excitement ensued. The train, however, was stopped within a few feet of the obstinate beast, and after a great deal of coaxing and whipping, the track was cleared. We cannot imagine what could have been the horse's motive for stopping in the way

THE RING.

OFF-HAND MILL

BETWEEN

DAN CARR AND PAT O'MEALY, NEAR NEW ORLEANS, LA.

79 ROUNDS IN 1 HOUR & 45 MINUTES.

We published in our last week's issue a short paragraph in relation to the fight between Dan Carr and Pat O'Mealy, but from the subjoined detailed account, forwarded us by a correspondent in the Crescent City, it appears that the brief statement a ready given contained several inaccuracies:—

At eight o'clock upon the morning of the 27th ult. I dropped at Dave Clark's hostelrie, and, noticing a gathering of the lower sports of the city, made inquiries as to what had occasioned the den nunation, when I was informed confidentially that a little mill had been arranged, off-hand, between Carr and O'Mealy for a purse, and that it would take place that day not far away. A start was shortly afterward made for the spot agreed upon for the contest, which I found to be the "Oaks." The ring was erected without delay, and O'Mealy was the first to sail his chapeau over the hemp, followed speedily by his antagonist. The former is the taller of the twain, though not so muscular as Dan, and looked in fair trim. Carr is a short, thick-set man, apparently possessed of great strength, but he was feebler than Patsy. Carr won the toss, and the men having taken their positions, Tom Barlow was chosen referee and John Dudley timekeeper. The men and their seconds then advanced and shook hands, and at ten minutes to ten o'clock time was called, and the principals placed themselves in attitude for

THE FIGHT.

Round 1. After some very pretty sparring, O'Mealy landed one on Carr's ribs, who returned with a blow on Pat's left eye, cutting that lid, Carr dropping. As O'Mealy was carried to his corner it was observed that his face was bleeding. *First blood* for Carr.

2 Both went to work in earnest; the advantage in sparring seemed to be chiefly on the side of Carr, who got in several very telling blows on Pat's face, cutting his nose and left eye badly; it ended by Carr going down.

3. This was much the same; when the men were carried to their corners, O'Mealy's face looked very bad, his left eye being nearly closed, and he was bleeding profusely.

4. Some very good sparring was ended by a h avy blow from Carr, which caught Pat on the nose, knocking him clean off his feet.

5 to 7. The fighting was very heavy, Carr getting home on the sore eye and left side of the face, and Pat on the breast and body; these rounds were generally ended by O'Mealy's being knocked down; occasionally he slipped down. Carr seemed to have it all his own way; Pat's face showed signs of terrible punishment, and one eye was closed, while on Carr not a scratch was visible.

From this time to the 40th round the work was principally done by O'Mealy, who usually came up and after getting one or two on Carr's body, dropped to the ground, now and then receiving a good one from Carr on the mug. Patrick was seldom in trying to give out his opponent, but in this he did not seem to make much headway. The 41st round was a well contested, O'Mealy getting in several on the body, and Carr returning them with interest on the face; they fought to the ropes, when Pat went down.

The balance of the fight was m very short rounds, one or the other going down after getting home a blow or two, about the 70 h round some one suggested that the stake should be divided and the fight stopped; this was not agreed to by the parties into exted, and Carr finished the work, getting some heavy knocks on Pat's dial with his left. It was now apparent that O'Mealy, though he would not give up, was very much exhausted, and would be unable to continue the fight much longer. He, nevertheless, came up game every time. After 78 rounds had been fought, on coming to the scratch for the 79th, the seconds of Carr protested that O'Mealy had something in his hand, and, upon being called upon to open them, it was found he had something in his right hand wrapped in a cloth; this was decided foul, and Carr declared the winner, after having fought about an hour and twenty-five minutes. He then left the ring, looking about as fresh as when he entered it.

Too much cannot be said of the courage and endurance of both men, especially of O'Mealy, who, after being apparently beaten in the early part of the battle, bravely held on to the last, and many of his friends expressed confidence that he could still have won, and condoned his having attempted an foul practice, by saying he was Carr, so, laughing, told us he was all right, and thought he could have won the fight in fifteen minutes, but in the 7th or 8th round, in striking his antagonist, he disloca ed the knuckles of his right hand, and in consequence was obliged to use his left only for the balance of the fight. The stake was a purse of $50, collected on the spot. Before commencing operations Carr offered to bet $50 that he would win, but it was not taken. The following card has since appeared in the New Orleans papers:—

MR. EDITOR:—I positively deny the statement in the local column of the Times in reference to the prize fight which took place last Sunday between Dan Carr and myself. We were merely fighting in order to find out who was the best man, and not for the sake of the stakes which would certainly have come to the State, as the only my second placed a small piece of paper in my hand to keep it clean—it was only about the size of a five dollar bill—and on the same there was a foul claimed in favor of Carr. I would also wish it possible to know that it is false about my nose being split in three places and my left eye being knocked out. I am as well as ever, and will fight Daniel Carr for $500 a si e within six weeks' time. Please send me my at Michael Hyde's, No 49 G rod street. So put up or shut up. Respectfully, PAT O'MEALY.

THE ALLEN-DAVIS MILL.

Arrest of Davis and Blake Upon a Charge of Assault.

MIKE McCOOLE BAILS THEM OUT.

CHARLEY GALLAGHER AND JIMMY ELLIOTT TO FIGHT IN THE SAME RING, PERHAPS.

On Tuesday of the current week the admirers of pugilism in the west will, in case nothing arises to cause a disappointment, be afforded an opportunity of gratifying their desire for a little fistic sport, as upon that date Tom Allen and Bill Davis have agreed to prove by ocular demonstration which of the pair can best stand and endure the most punishment, within fifty miles of the Mound City, for a thousand dollars in green paper a side. The odds are largely in favor of Allen, whose superior skull is well known, while the exorcience he has had in the ring, and the ability he exhibited in his late battles, cause it to be looked upon as a foregone conclusion in his favor, providing the fight is decided upon its merits. It is possible, however, that this opinion may be erroneous, and this Davis and his more enthusiastic friends express confidence will prove to be the case. Much interest is manifested in the meeting by the sporting blades of the west, and large delegations from Cincinnati, St. Louis, Cleveland, Chicago, and other large cities, are expected at the ring side. The precise locale chosen for the encounter is not known, but it is expected that it will be somewhere upon the soil of the Sucker Commonwealth. Davis arrived in St. Louis on the 7th inst.; he located well and found himself confident of pulling the affair off in thirty days, when we hear some "monish" has been raised in the rival fashions. We extract the following from the Republican of a recent date:—

Considerable excitement in our city was decidedly agitated, as it has been training for the fight with Allen Davis, has got himself into a very serious difficulty. It will be remembered that a few days ago we alluded to a fight embroglios which occurred at the house near the Fair Grounds, in which Davis and his trainer, 'Dublin Jack,' were still living during their training operations. Within the past ten days or so the approaching fight was the absorbing theme of conversation and the genre ality of the ball element among the "fancy" of St. Louis seems to be just now swollen by sundry additions to the crowd. The grand stipulation of the coming 'mill' is that either of the combatants fails to appear upon the ground at the appointed hour, the other shall be declared the victor and shall receive the stakes, and hence a great many parties who have backed Allen heavily would be very much pleased to see Davis fail to come to time. Recently, not a few of Allen's customers have visited Davis at his rural retreat, and seemed decidedly anxious to kick up a row generally. A somewhat fierce 'muss' occurred at the house some days ago, and Davis was slightly wounded, and the report was circulated that an attempt had been made to assassinate him. It seems possible that some such design may have been concocted, or at least of disabling him, but in only trivial consequences as far as inflicting bodily injury. At the time the attack was made, or thereto, a man named Ryan, who also visited the Fair Grounds, became involved in a row and his trainer, and received some shocking injury to face which place his life in jeopardy. We do not exactly the circumstance of the fracas, but the Fourth District arrested Bill Davis and his friend, 'Dublin Tricks,' on the charge of assault with intent to kill. They were brought to the station on the Fourth Circuit, and subsequently transferred to the Central Station, and their surly forms consigned to the shades of the calaboose, where they remained until about ten o'clock p. m., when Mike McCoole bailed them out at the Fourth District arrested Bill Davis and his friend, 'Dublin Tricks,' on the charge of assault with intent to kill. They were brought to the station on the Fourth Circuit, and subsequently transferred to the Central Station, and their surly forms consigned to the shades of the calaboose, where they remained until about ten o'clock p. m., when Mike McCoole bailed them out at the rate of $1,000 each. The case of Davis, we understand, was $2,000, and of 'Dublin Tricks' $1,000.'

On the 7th inst., they were bound over to answer the charge, but this will not interfere with the arrangements for the fight, as arrangements will probably have come to a head on the 26th inst., when the men will be matched to fight on the following Tuesday. Should the fight not come off on the 26

THE COQUETTE'S SOLILOQUY.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.

He says that he loves—I don't doubt him;
He has sworn it full three times to-day—
But still I'm contented without him,
And miss him not when he's away;
Explain it—divine it—why is it?
While love in his heart makes sad moan,
Not a touch of the feeling exquisite
Is thrilling the chords of my own.

I'm in love! So they say—how deluded—
Poor creatures! In love, and with him;
Because in my bower secluded,
He yields to each varying whim.
I own it is pleasant to listen
To pleadings from morning till night,
To watch his eye sadden or glisten—
But really to *love* him—not quite!

I'm weary of billing and cooing,
I'm weary of heart breaking sighs,
And all this nonsensical wooing,
And glances from speaking blue eyes;
But somehow there's luxury in it—
It grows on one day after day,
And, truth to tell, when you begin it,
'Tis repugnant to put it away!

Ah, me! how deceitful mankind is,
And womankind, too; but they say
When we deceive, what we first find is,
Our own hearts have flitted away.
Are you there? Well, come in, then; I see, dear,
You are not so bad, after all;
And in love I would much rather be, dear,
With you *than with no one at all!*

GAVESTON'S HEIR;

OR,

CAUGHT IN THE TOILS.

By the Author of "She Would be an Actress."

CHAPTER XLVI.

MR. HAWKES IS CHECKMATED.

Impatience was a small word to express the feeling with which Ralph Gaveston awaited his bride in the Beech Grove drawing-room. He was feverishly nervous, and dreaded that something—he scarce knew what—should occur to snatch his happiness and his fortune from his grasp. He kept reviewing his position as he stood there, striving to keep up an appearance of calmness to the clergyman and his future father-in-law, and it was a great relief when Sir John declared the appointed hour had arrived, and went up stairs to seek his daughter. She came, looking very modest and lovely, and took her place calmly, but blushing rosy red under her veil, and he stood beside her, white as ashes and trembling visibly. The family and Mrs. Gaveston grouped themselves around the temporary altar, and the service commenced.

The clergyman had just uttered the dreadful requisition, "I require and charge you both," &c., and the bridegroom's heart was beating almost to suffocation with the mingled thoughts and memories which the query called up, when there was heard a sound of scuffling feet and angry voices outside. The minister stopped, and Sir John Grantley went to see the cause of the unseemly interruption; a group of servants were struggling with a man strange to him, but recognized by Ruth, who gave a frightened scream as Dan the Devil burst into the room, and caught Ralph Gaveston by the arm.

"The game's up!" he exclaimed, in a harsh, hurried whisper. "It's all blown; they're in the house! Bolt, I'll cover your escape."

Dan had had time to have warned his old associate if he could have gained access to him; but it had been denied him, as it had been to every one else, and he had literally fought his way through them to the drawing-room door, which was pointed out to him by one of the terrified female servants.

"The game's up!"

The words rang in the ears of him they were spoken to like a peal of thunder, and he gave a helpless, bewildered glance around the room. Only one—the instinct of self-preservation was strong, and he sprang to the door to meet the stern face of the man he deemed he had sent safely over the sea, Mr. Ord, Limpling, and the police officers! There was no chance, he saw that in an instant, and he stood still, with a wicked smile playing about his lips.

"At last!" those nearest to him heard him say in a low tone, while Hawkes, advancing quietly, put his hand upon his shoulder, and said:—

"Alfred Bennett, you are my prisoner."

In an instant all was confusion; every tongue spoke at once, but the squire never spoke nor moved.

"What! you, too, Ord!" cried Sir John Grantley; "are you mad, man? This is Mr. Gaveston!"

"I know what I am about," he replied; "get the ladies away, if you please—explanations will come by-and-bye. I can only assure you, now, that I am neither exceeding my duty, nor acting under any false impression. Indeed, I am speaking the truth, my dear young lady," he added, speaking to Ruth, who was clinging to the man he had called by a new name, and looking at him with terrified eyes. "Let your mother take you out of this room; it's no place for ladies now."

"Do you bid me go?" she asked, looking up into the white, statue-like face of the man who in a quarter of an hour would have been her husband. "If you bid me leave you, I will, but say this is all a mistake, a blunder, before sending me away; you can do that—you will, will you not?"

No, he could not. She read it in his working, agonized face, that not all his hard self control could steady, and her head drooped and her loosening arms fell to her side. She did not faint, nor scream, nor cry; to the pain and terror of the scene by any feminine display; she submitted as her father took her in his arms and half led and half carried her away. At the door he consigned her to her mother and Mrs. Gaveston, who both showed far more terror and anxiety than the bride thus strangely widowed. People afterwards were not slow to say Ruth Grantley had no feeling, that she bore the shock of that terrible time without much suffering; but those who knew her well, and saw her afterwards, knew that the look of horror which came into her mild eyes in that hour never left them till they closed forever on this world and its sorrows, and that the thick bright silver threads gleamed thick and white in the rich brown hair which lay in shining masses on her fair forehead.

Outside, in the corridor, the ladies were met by Mrs. Grey, with Mattie Brock at her side. It was no time for cereal, and they had crept up stairs to see if they could fulfill their design and speak to Ruth.

"Oh, Jessie, what is all this?" Mrs. Gaveston said in terror. "Why did you not tell me if you knew anything?"

"Oh, mistress dear, I wish I had," she replied. "God knows that my tongue for the best; I didn't know when the wedding was to be till this morning, or I'd have spoken, but I was racked with doubts and fears I didn't know the truth, nor my own mind."

"But Jessie, dear," the lady said, as Lady Grantley passed on with her maid, supporting Ruth, "that man called him by another name—called him 'Alfred Bennet;' I can't understand it—can you?"

"Oh, yes, only too well. It's true that's his name, don't you see? it is not Mr. Ralph that lies buried out in the forest yonder, and this man—"

"But the likeness the—"

"Mr. Ord will tell you, ma'am—may be I've no right to speak—it's an awful thing; 'the sins of the father shall be visited upon the children,' the Bible says, and it's true—its true."

Mrs. Gaveston wondered at what she thought her wild words, but, alas, she understood them all too soon. She followed Lady Grantley and Ruth, but the former put her out, and asked to be left alone with her child for a little.

"The very name is hateful to them now," she thought bitterly, and returned to the drawing room, resisting all their entreaties that she would retire from a scene so painful.

"I can bear to hear all there is to be told now," she said, and seated herself in a corner, out of sight of Ralph's white face, which was never once turned towards her. Since the moment when the man had entered the room he had stood perfectly still, attempting no resistance, and denying nothing.

Sir John was fussy and indignant, protesting and storming all in a breath; but Hawkes made no comment, he only waited for the tempest of words to wear itself out.

"Have you nothing to say, Gaveston?" he asked at length. "Here's a fellow comes and arrests you in another man's name for—by Jove, sir, you haven't said what for yet."

"I have arrested Alfred Bennett on two charges of murder," replied the detective, quietly; "one of conspiring to defraud and injure this gentleman, Mr. Kennedy; one of arson; and, lastly, of assuming the place and appropriating the property of Ralph Gaveston, deceased. There's a good deal for the law to take hold of, you see."

Sir John put his hand to his head with a bewildered look.

"Ralph Gaveston, deceased," he said. "Alfred Bennett! I cannot understand. Will any one explain?"

"Since no one seems inclined, I will," said the prisoner, speaking for the first time since the arrest. "Our official friend, here—assisted a great deal by the chapter of accidents, fate, himself, or whatever you like to call the destiny that shapes our ends—not a little by the treachery of yonder blasted hound, whom I paid liberally to hold his tongue—"

"And tried to burn him alive afterwards," said Hawkes.

"Don't forget that, Mr. Bennett."

He took no notice of the interruption, but went on—

"Has found out the secret which I deemed lay buried safe in the woods across the sea. I am Alfred Bennett, bosom friend of the heir of Gordon Gaveston; you must not lament him, for I assure you he would not have filled the place of lord of the manor like your humble servant."

There was something fiendish in the aspect of his handsome face as he stood there among them with folded arms, coolly confessing such horrible crimes, and they all shrank back a pace or two.

"I did not mean to wrong you, Sir John Grantley," he said, turning to the baronet, who had sunk into a chair, with his head buried in his hands; "but for this untoward revelation I would have made a good husband to Ruth."

"A man must be a widower before he can marry," said Hawkes, shortly; "your wife is—"

"Dead!" said the prisoner, shortly.

"No, down stairs; you see it is checkmate."

"The game is played out, indeed," he said, with a sneer. "Shall I make a clean breast of it and tell you all my sins and iniquities? If Ralph Gaveston hadn't been such a babbling fool I should never have dreamed of taking his place in the world, but he blabbed to me of his father and mother, his brothers, and all his family affairs, till I was *en fait* in everything. Think you will own that I have not passed myself off as a Gaveston badly, though, indeed, I have as much right to the name as he had—eh! I see Mr. Ord has hit the truth." For the old lawyer had turned deathly pale and trembled violently.

"You have all heard, at least those who are old enough, of Mildred Bennett, the forsaken mistress of Ralph Gaveston's father; I am her son and his, and, at any rate, I have avenged my mother's wrong. As to what has happened since I took my new name and place in the world, I must not talk of that; it will be public property soon. My pretty niece, who, by the way, was never so cutting as she should have been to her affectionate uncle, will inherit an estate improved, and not deteriorated; and you, madam, will once more reign at Gaveston Hall, its mistress."

Mrs. Gaveston shrank from him in shuddering horror as he turned towards her with the evil smile on his face.

"How could I be so duped?" she said, bitterly.

"We were all duped," said Sir John. "Oh, my poor child; what can restore her happiness? Murder and bigamy. Heaven help us! Why has such a curse come upon us?"

"Not bigamy quite, Sir John," Hawkes said, "though we had a narrow miss of being too late. This gentleman laid his plans well. Now, sir, if you please, I'm sorry to do it, but in murder cases it is necessary you know."

The apology was called forth by the production of the law's last degradation—a pair of bright handcuffs—which the officer was proceeding to fasten on, when the prisoner stopped him.

"Stay," he said. "Will you not permit me to make some alteration in my dress—a dress coat and white satin waistcoat, with white tie and patent leather boots, is hardly the costume for a prison, and I should like to be allowed a change of linen. You need not lose sight of me, gentlemen; you may even hold my arm, if you will, I have no intention of running away, I can assure you."

After a minute or two's deliberation Hawkes consented, and the three left the room with their prisoner, his own man attending him to the dressing room where he had so lately attired his self for his wedding. He was far more affected and put out than the man who had just owned to such a fearful career of crime. He was as perfectly cool as though the two men were there chance visitors, instead of his gaolers.

"I suppose you came prepared for a scene or a row," he said, as he coolly took off his coat, and handed it to his valet, and proceeded to divest himself of his neckt ie.

"Well, no; we knew our man must be pretty cool," Hawkes replied. "It's always the best in the end; but folks get a-giving way to agitation and their feelings, and don't think of it. I felt sure you'd come quietly when you knew the game was up."

"Ah, much obliged for your good opinion, I'm sure; no, not that tie, John, the black one—thank you."

He arranged the bow of the fashionable morsel of silk as carefully as though he were making his toilet for a morning stroll along Pall Mall, and Hawkes could not help watching him admiringly.

"What a plucky one he is!" he said to himself, for the hands did not tremble, nor the eyes falter one bit. Suddenly he sprang forward with a shout, but he was too late; the white hand, with its flashing diamond ring, had gone up to the head, carrying something that gleamed in the gaslight; there was a loud crash, a blinding flash, a crashing fall, and Mr. Hawkes's great care had slipped through his fingers for ever, after all.

CHAPTER XLVII.

AT REST.

The startling event which forever closed the care, upon which Hawkes had bestowed so much care and pains, was so awfully sudden, so totally unlooked for, that for a moment the three men who witnessed it were stricken dumb. A moment before he had stood in their midst, apparently no more concerned by his sudden arrest than the meanest servant of the Beech Grove household—and now he lay dying at their feet, his blood spattering the glittering ornaments of the table before which he had so lately made his last earthly toilet. He had so completely disarmed suspicion by his calm, unmoved manner, that they never dreamed of such a denouement as this to the wicked drama of his life, and they were paralyzed. Ere they could raise him from the ground, the whole household were thronging up stairs; the sharp, ringing report of the little weapon he had used had penetrated the terrified stillness which succeeded his arrest, and sent them all, in terrible certainty of what had happened, to the chamber door, first of all, Ruth in her floating bridal dress, with wild horror in her soft, brown eyes.

"Keep her out—take the ladies away," said Hawkes, and Sir John vainly tried to force his daughter back.

"I will go in," she said, in a quiet, firm tone. "If these men had been half an hour later I should have been his wife, and this place is mine by right."

They did not stop her now; she could do neither good nor harm to him by her presence, and she went resolutely to his side, evincing no fear of the dread presence of death.

"I will be very quiet," she said; "but I was to have been his wife, remember that."

A hand touched her shoulder as she spoke, and, looking up, she saw Mary Dale standing beside her.

"I am his wife," she said, pitifully, as though afraid of being driven away.

A spasm passed over Ruth's face, and without a word she resigned her place to the pale creature who seemed to have sprung up like a pale spirit in their midst.

"Let her stay," she said to her father; "she has the greater right."

There was no insanity in the white face now; the shock of what had happened seemed to have restored in some degree her wandering mind, and, though she took no notice of those around her, it was clear she perfectly understood everything. She took the dying man's head upon her arm, and sat there, cold and still, waiting for the doctor to arrive. They sent in all speed for the nearest medical man, though not the combined skill of all the medical men in the world could call Ralph Gaveston back to the light and life of the world again. Ere the messenger was outside the park gates the brief suspense was over, and the two women whom he had so wronged, and to whom he had so loved him, had seen him die. Sir John carried his daughter away, and kind hands led the poor wife—a widow now—down stairs, where she was given into the charge of Mrs. Bartley and Mattie, who took her back to the Gaveston Arms, attended by George Dale, who, in the midst of all the horror of the night, could not help feeling a ray of joy when he thought of his recovered treasure, and how he would nurse her back to life and happiness again.

Hawkes was firm in his resolve to secure, though he preserved a decorous exterior; but before the officers left the house Sir John sent for them, and promised that they should be no losers by the untoward ending of the affair which their patience and skill had so nearly completed. There were plenty of proofs, even if the confession made by the dead man before he went up to that fatal toilet had been withheld. Mr. Kennedy, Limping Jack and Dan the Devil could all swear that he was not Ralph Gaveston, though it seemed only too clear that he had a right to the name little suspected by any one. To try and hush up the miserable affair was impossible, and Beech Grove and Gaveston Hall, and each every one connected in any way therewith, became objects of such prying curiosity that Sir John and Lady Grantley, with Ruth, fairly took flight, and went to spend the winter in Italy, where for many months the poor girl's life was despaired of.

But Ruth did not die; she rallied, to live for many a long year at Beech Grove, beloved by all who knew her, doing good to every one, till her name was to the people round about as that of an angel, but never smiling or thinking of love or marriage more.

Mrs. Gaveston and Alice, the mistress of the Hall now, went away too, for a time, till the dread recollection of that interrupted wedding had somewhat died out. Dan the Devil was not prosecuted; Mr. Kennedy let him go, and there was no one else who had any claim upon him. He was admonished to go out of the country, and did, ridding England of his presence, and disappearing, no one knew where, amidst the roving gold-seekers of the Australian diggings.

There is not much more to relate of this eventful history. Many years have passed away since Ralph Gaveston finished his career of crime by taking his own life, and the green trees round the old Hall shadow the footsteps of a new master and mistress. The mistress is pretty Alice Gaveston, a matron now, with "toddling wee things" nestling on her knee, or following her footsteps as she moves about her old home; and the master is Mr. Kennedy, or Kennedy-Gaveston, as he is called now, for when he married the heiress he took the old name. The acquaintance began in such sorrow soon ripened into love, and about two years after her accession to the property, Alice gave her hand where she had already given her heart, and became his wife. The match caused a great deal of surprise, for he was a good deal older than his bride, and his tall daughter looks like her stepmother's sister; but they are very happy, and love is blind to many incongruities.

George Dale and his wife are in America. It was many months before he could feel sure that she would ever recover sufficiently to be married again; and even now he has the painful certainty that she will never be strong. But she is his own—all his—and his whole life is one long dream of making her happy.

Mrs. Bartley is dead; Mr. Ord, too, rests under the green turf in the old Warwick churchyard; but they both had the melancholy satisfaction of seeing the remains of the true Ralph Gaveston laid in the family vault before they died. George Dale undertook the task of having them sent to England: it was Alice's wish, and no expense was spared in doing it. A sincere mourner at that grave was Mattie Brock, whose tears fell fast for the man who had been her life's salvation.

Mattie is in the service of the Gavestons once more; she is married now, and keeps the lodge gate on the Warwick Road. It is quite a treat to see her clean, smiling face, as she curtseys to the mistress or her guests, and to peep into the comfortable, clean home she keeps for her husband, who, with his quiet manner, intelligent face and improved health, we can hardly recognize as the limping Jack who carried Mexican Dale's trunk, or rose from the bottom of the Atlantic to help in bringing to light the gigantic fraud which changed Alfred Bennett into Ralph Gaveston.

THE END.

LOVE AND DUTY.

A PLAGIARISM.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.

BY SEE-SEE.

I.

'Twas a lovely, placid daybreak, about noon of a summer day, while stern winter asserted his sway in vengeful blasts. Huge, heavy clouds rolled across the heavens, and the lightnings crashed, and naught could be heard but the flashing of the thunders. In the midst of this baleful scene the silvery midnight moon smiled down through the branches of the impenetrable trees, as she always does on such occasions.

A youthful old maid sat on the stump of a green forest monarch, beside the quivering waves of the slumbering river. Her beauty was of the cadaverous kind, and spoke volumes too deep for utterance—

"Bury her deep," (Quotation).

She was listening with an air of the deepest consternation to the mystic pleadings of the youth beside her, whose voice would have been of the flute order if it were not for his cold. His patches would not have been revealed to the jeerings of a heartless world had he been old enough to wear tail coats. Apollo might have envied our hero, for who knows what a god might not do?

Sorrow and mullen stalks cast their shades upon the antique children. Her lovely grey eyes filled with tears of tearing anguish. He, too, felt blubberish. At last he spoke and his tones were quiet and full of mournful dignity, like the yowl of a broken backed bull dog.

"Diluted essence of honeysuckles," began the young man, in a fire sing roar, "do you dare to doubt my adoration for thee? I worship the werry sky beneath thy pure feet. Doubt that the dorg loves his mutton, but don't, don't doubt me! Beware!" he continued in his most plaintive whispers, "Be mine, adorable critter, or I die! By heaven! I swear I love thee well! To come down a little, by h—"

"Johon," she murmured hoarsely, "Es kann nicht be. Me feyther!" And her voice seemed tinctured with cow bells and other sweet essences, like the dying song of the youthful pollywog.

"Oh, canst thou sit in thy cold majesty like a frozen sausage," he yelled, "and see mine aching heart smashed to finders, from a sense of duty? See!" he murmured, as he dashed a drop from the extremity of his agitated *nez*, "even dumb nature weeps for thy cruelty to me! Mercy, or I bust with anguish!"

"Johon," she calmly screamed, "thou knowest that I love thee. Thou art aware that thy kusses are the only nourishment that passes these lips. My heart clings to thee like a bean to its pole. Were I but free, even thy unpaid tailor would not be with thee more! But, alars! The picket fence of duty hedges me in, and the cruel spikes of a parent's command may not be surmounted."

And she sa'velled thoughtfully.

"One last embrace," she muttered, vengefully, after a lapse of seven years, "and we part forever."

"O, bid me *nicht gegangen!*" he howled, as he clasped her to his buzzum. "I'll not go! Four and twenty locomotions shall not tear us asunder. I will thee the thought remains me. I'm mad! I'm mad! I could fearlessly face a rhenmatic bedbug! I could tear up the earth by the roots! I could eat red hot pokers. I feel bad!"

And, laughing hysterically, they both fell dead.

II.

Again it is evening; and again the noon-tide sun seems smiling serenely on the scene of utter desolation. For we now be away to the cot in the valley of love. It is a dark, gloomy, dismal, damp, rhoothy old castle, just fitished, of the green and unhewn monarchs of the forest.

The maiden sat beside a well laden table, containing two plates, some pan cakes, and a little acerbated milk. She gazed upon them proudly, though with marked humility.

"These viands are for my husband—my Johon," she yelled. "Why do he not come?"

Then she heard something.

"Tis he," she continued, in the same tragic whisper. "But no! That is not his voice; it must be the calf, bleating for its mamma."

But it was he, and he entered upon the mysterious scene. Then he saw the tempting feast arranged for him, and he fondly grumbled.

"Slapjacks again! You know I don't like 'em. Was it for this I built for thee this palace by the Lake of Como? For this!—I—was it—say?"

"I wish I'd staid at home with pa!" she returned. "You won't give me any money to go to market, and yet you're not entitled with a moderate comeheney!"

"Never mind, dear one," he shouted, "Don't grumble; be cheerful, like me. Let us be all in all to each other, and live above worldly thoughts of grub. We'll sail down life's amber stream together.

"Two souls with but a single thought,
Two hearts that beat as one."

So saying, he invoked a blessing upon her, and stabbed her to the heart. He gazed around contentedly for a moment; then he discharged a no-de-gun into his own head. Then, only pausing a moment to fire the superb mansion, he lay down to pleasant dreams. THE END.

WHAT SAYS THE SEA?

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.

What says the sea, the murmuring sea,
In its sad monotone?
Does it bring from the absent a message to me,
As I weep here alone?
One word of forgiveness,
To me all alone.

By thy side, as we walked, mourning sea,
In the rashness of youth,
Were those terribly cruel words spoken by me,
So wanting in truth,
Will he ever again
Believe in my truth?

Night's sable curtain is shrouding the earth,
But the gloom in my heart,
As my steps turn again to my desolate hearth,
Will it ever depart?
This ceaseless regret,
Can it ever depart?

O, sea, thou restless, murmuring sea,
Still that sad monotone!
Bring, in pity, some message to me,
As I weep here alone.
One word of forgiveness
To me, all alone. C. C.

REMINISCENCES OF A MAN ABOUT TOWN.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.

BY PAUL PRESTON, ESQ.

No. 38.—In the "Spirit" World.

Possibly no journal, during its existence, ever exercised a more decided influence upon the class whose interests it was designed to advocate, than the old *Spirit of the Times*. At the period of its being commenced there was scattered over the country a very large and wealthy class of gentlemen passionately devoted to field sports, and many turfmen pecuniarily interested in the raising of stock, particularly blood horses and it was a happy idea to combine a purely literary journal with a chronicle of the turf. The project of a gentleman's newspaper had been more than mooted, and partially carried into effect by Cadwallader Colden, a man of talent and reputation, with an unlimited racing experience. Mr. Colden, however, with all his knowledge, was singularly unfortunate in his turf speculation, so much so that it passed into an adage that every horse he backed was sure to be beaten. Consequently his publication, although able, failed to be regarded as authoritive and of weight as to sporting matters, while as a literary work it could not compete with the *Albion*, the *Constellation* and others of that class.

This "Chronicle of the Turf, the Stage and of Field Sports," as its imprint truthfully and succintly expressed its character, was started into existence by a gentleman named Chas. J. B. Fisher, the brother to the famous actress, Clara Fisher, who, after conducting it a while, disposed of his interest to assume editorial charge of a paper in Georgia, in which State he subsequently deceased. It then passed into the hands of the brothers Porter, the chief of whom, W. T. Porter, will be long remembered by our elder citizens as the most popular member of the American press, more familiarly known as the Tall Son of York, on account of his altitude, he attaining six feet four inch a in his stocking feet. Originally a compositor, accident threw William into the editorial chair, but once there he labored most strenuously to render himself worthy of his position. He called around him well educated contributors and collected together probably the best library of sporting literature ever in this country, a library of infinite value in establishing the pedigrees of our racing cracks, nine-tenths of whom were from imported stock. Having in a degree mastered the history of the turf, Mr. Porter cultivated his descriptive powers, traveling from race course to race course, reporting their transactions in so graphic a style as to infuse an interest in a style of literature heretofore regarded merely as a branch of statistics. I am speaking of Porter in his palmier days, for towards the end he had lost all of his characteristic application and energy. Mr. Porter was of agreeable person, very genial in his manners and of a kindly disposition, which endeared him to every one he encountered. These good qualities laid the basis of his reputation and prosperity, and amply compensated for any lack of erudition upon matters not immediately connected with field sports.

To the kindly disposition of William T. Porter, Horace Greeley is indebted for his start in life; indeed, the very first editorial written by that distinguished editor appeared in the columns of Mr. Porter's paper, in the office of which Horace worked at the case. When Greeley first arrived in the city, with his trunk, after the manner of the Hon. Dick Dowlas, suspended at the end of a stick, he sought for employment, but, as his personal appearance was decidedly against any opinion of his competency, he was refused, until he came to an office wherein Porter officiated as foreman. The benevolent tendency of William's disposition, aided by the fact that they came from the same State—New Hampshire—could not refuse the strolling printer's petition for labor, so, not having much confidence in his *protege's* ability, he set him to work on "Roy's Hebrew Lexicon." In the evening, when the proofs were drawn, Porter was pleased to find that Greeley had proven himself an excellent compositor, and from that time forth he never wanted a situation when in Mr. Porter's power to bestow one.

William T. Porter was materially assisted in his editorial labors by his two brothers, who, unlike him, had been educated to the learned professions. Dr. Porter, a fine, portly man, with a cast of countenance remarkably resembling that of Martin Van Buren, had graduated with distinction at one of the medical colleges, but, despite all the practice of medicine, of which he was an enthusiastic admirer, from a sensitive reluctance to witness any of his fellow creatures suffering pain. Assuming the pen for his support, the Doctor was partner with Nat. Willis in the *Corsair*, one of the numerous newspapers then in vogue which relied almost wholly upon culling from the English periodicals for their contents. However, the Doctor, through his industry and ability, infused a deal of original matter into the paper, until, upon the departure of Willis for Europe, where he got into a row with Capt. Marryatt, the novelist, and accepted a challenge to fight a duel, which never came off, the circulation of the *Corsair* fell off to such a degree as to render its incorporation with the *Albion* a matter of necessity. Subsequently the Doctor accepted a position as teacher in Coudert's Academy, which he maintained to the hour of his death. A polished, urbane and patrician-like gentleman, few persons knowing the Doctor failed to respect and esteem him, as he was the idol of youth placed beneath his supervision.

It was mainly to the enterprise and energy of Mr. George Porter that the journal soon obtained a decided position. Educated to the bar, and during the few years of his practice regarded as among the most promising members of the profession, he was induced by his brother to assist him in his literary enterprise. This George did with a hearty good will, sparing neither severe labor or toil to run ahead of his contemporaries—not a very difficult task in those days of old fogy journalism, had he possessed our present facilities, but a herculean task for a single individual to perform in those full days to make a journey from the Camden course to this city. In 1842, when the paper fell into other hands, in consequence of William T. Porter's bankruptcy, George went to New Orleans and attached himself to the *Picayune*, then commencing to make itself felt among its contemporaries. Upon the breaking out of the Mexican war, George followed the army with his usual enthusiasm and alacrity. His graphic and vivid descriptions of the war scenes, his distinctions of life, and, above all, the keenness and brilliancy of his correspondence, gave an impetus to the *Picayune*, placing it at the head of the popular press of the Crescent City.

For many years *The Spirit* flourished amazingly, notwithstanding its subscription price was placed at ten dollars, which was partially compensated for by the presentation annually of one or more steel engravings, copies of which are occasionally to be met with in sporting houses. Its circulation extended from the Canadian wilderness to the remote regions of the southwest, while its contributors embraced hundreds of gentlemen, especially southern planters of leisure, who beguiled their spare hours by writing. So universal was its reputation and so thorough the demand for it, that Mr. Porter himself, during a southern tour, was perfectly astonished at the celebrity he had unwittingly acquired. At one point on the Mississippi—a wood station—he found an individual who had rode twenty miles to intercept the steamer in the hope of obtaining a chance copy of the paper.

But it was particularly with turfmen and breeders that it obtained favor, for at that period the raising of blood stock formed, as it were, a profession with the more wealthy gentlemen of this ilk and the planters of the south, and the organ of such a class of men teemed with articles touching their avocation, which put to the blush the most elaborate productions of British pens; for heretofore we had relied wholly upon the London sporting magazines for information as to the turf.

About the period of the annual races the office presented a most animated appearance; for then there congregated a mass of turfmen, of trainers and of jockeys, who had arrived with their stables, oftentimes from New Orleans and other long distances. The spring and fall meetings of the Jockey Club over the Union Course were marked incidents in our civic existence, while upon occasions of great matches, such as those of Boston and Fashion, and of Fashion and Peytona, popular excitement could scarcely be restrained within decorous bounds. The races were regarded as holidays, to such a degree tolerated by public opinion, that I have known an important case adjourned by a learned judge upon the ground that one of the counsel, J. Prescott Hall, was necessarily absent at the races, he being President of the Jockey Club. Consequently during this period of turf commotion the office was thronged, especially as its location in Barclay street, directly opposite the Astor House, afforded the strangers an easy means of discovering its whereabouts.

The person whose arrival created the most sensation was Col. Johnson, of Virginia, commonly designated the "Napoleon of the Turf," a remarkable old gentleman, with a shrewd, cunning smile on his countenance, whose most peculiar trait was retention of his opinions, if any he had, strictly within himself. He particularly prided himself upon his head of hair, which, iron grey, stiff and luxuriant, stood up after the manner of Andrew Jackson's. The original of a portrait of this turf patriarch, painted by Inman, graced the sanctum, while very excellent portraits of his and other famous horses, executed by a southern artist named Troye, decidedly the best animal painter America has produced, hung around the office walls. Colonel Johnson was said to have been the most successful man on the turf; but personally, from his penurious habits, he was decidedly unpopular. His last appearance among us, I believe, was at the Boston race, at which, in common with the southerners, he lost heavily, Fashion being an unknown nag, while Boston's trial time had exceeded even his own. The unexpected triumph of the northern crack reduced many of the southern turfmen almost to a condition of penury, and several disposed of a part of their stables to cover the expense of the unfortunate northern campaign. Add to this disaster a belief that negro property was insecure in this region, in consequence of the augmenting anti-slavery sentiment, and we have satisfactory reasons for the diminished attendance of southern stables which followed the Fashion and Peytona match, and were only revived momentarily after the Peytona-Fashion match. Neither should the heavy drafts slave-owning turf men be underestimated, for I have seen more than one stable contesting at the north, all bonds connected with it, from trainer down to groom and jockey, being negro slaves. Indeed, for attachment to the animals and fidelity to their owners, they were often times preferred to hired white attendants. Generally, in company with Johnson, came a Mr. Long, of Washington, who, with some associates, was the owner of Boston and other nags of repute. Apart from his turf reputation, he was a man of no remarkable character; but, regarded as a type of the southern planter, he was practical, enterprising and true to his various racing engagements.

Occasionally, but not often, there came to our city Col. Wade Hampton, father to the rebel general of the same name, the wealthiest planter in South Carolina, and probably the heaviest owner of blood stock in this country. As Col. Hampton had been educated abroad, he ever retained the style and manner of a polished gentleman, and therein presented a striking contrast to many of the swaggering, blustering roysterers who found it to their advantage to follow in the wake of the training stables. In fact, it was this class of men—many of them adventurers and gamesters—dependent upon the chances of the race course for a living, which generated a strong prejudice against the turf in the minds of our northern citizens, who had, before their advent, been its warmest patrons.

Thirty years ago, when the Jockey Club flourished in great glory, there were at least a dozen prominent stables in the immediate vicinity of the city. Charles Henre Hall maintained a superb establishment upon the Island. Capt. Sutton and others had handsome stables at Jamaica and elsewhere upon Long Island, which were under the charge of Alf. Conover, the trainer, well known in the annals of the local turf. Commodore Stockton and the Stevens Brothers had their studs conveniently located at Hoboken, their trial course covering an area of ground at present tenanted by the habitations of the worthy Teutons, who appear determined to render the embryo city a second Bremen.

The Stevens family, originally proprietaries of the Hoboken lands, have ever shown themselves devoted to the public interests and the advocacy of ennobling pastimes. The father, Col. Stevens, an engineer of noted skill, claimed invention of the steamboat, having crossed the Hudson in a model boat years before Fulton made his appearance. Robert L., likewise an engineer, greatly improved our inland navigation, beside being a most enthusiastic turfman. John C. was the genuine father of the Yacht Club, having successively built the Wave, the Onkaye, the Ginger etc., and the Maria the last of which, for years bore the Commodore's pennant. The surviving brother succeeded to his brothers' tastes and reputation.

Among the last of our local turfmen, and the one who adhered the longest to the fallen fortunes of the Old Jockey Club, was Mr. William Gibbons, the owner of Fashion, Shark, Maniac, and other well known horses. His stables were located at Monmouth, N. J., and placed beneath the charge of a Mr. Laird, a fine, honest, manly specimen of a Jersey farmer, whose son Sam acted as jockey for Mr. Gibbons' entries. From his younger days Mr. Gibbons showed an earnest devotion to racing, not for the purposes of gain, for he never betted himself, nor knowingly allowed his horses to be used for that purpose. He regarded the improvement of the horse as a popular benefit, and no one who has ever traveled in the section of the country wherein his stables were located, can fail to remark the superior breed of animals in use for farming and other purposes. But being eccentric upon turf matters, his good intentions were constantly marred by his persistence in experimenting as to the admixture of blood. Fashion was really the only superior animal by him possessed, although all of his stable were above mediocrity, and the acquisition of this famous mare was the result of a singular transaction.

Mr. Gibbons, at the outset of his career upon the turf, declined to be a breeder, as he bought untried colts and fillies, according to his notions of their pedigrees, and caused them to be trained for the course. His experience was certainly disheartening, as he never won a race; indeed, it passed into a familiar expression "Mr. Gibbons's entry—distanced as usual." While at Charleston and smarting under numerous defeats, Mr. Gibbons was induced to buy Bonnets o' Blue as a brood mare, she having gained great reputation through her contest with Clara Fisher. He paid a small figure, for the southern gentlemen thought they had a soft thing upon their northern friend. The fact was the mare was regarded as sterile, having missed on several occasions, and at the time of her sale was said to be in foal by imported Trustee, but could not be warranted. Removed to the north, the change of air, especially the sea atmosphere off the Jersey shore, wrought such an improvement in the mare's condition that, to the astonishment and annoyance of her former owners, she dropped Fashion, who, as a species of retributary vengeance, defeated the much vaunted champion of the southern turf.

The cardinal trouble with racing in America has ever been found in the total absence of professional jockies. Gilpatrick was certainly a neat rider, quite equal to Waggner's negro. Sam Laird rode carefully and well, but the best of them all was "Barney," a middle aged man named Palmer, who came from Alabama to ride Peytona. Yet none of these men were jockies in a true meaning of the term, possessing neither the judgement nor ability necessary to husband the resources of a horse or to compel him to a brilliant finish. Once on an American course have I seen a genuine exhibition of jockeyship, and that was during a match over the Union, with gentlemen riders. Henry William Herbert, by a judicious exercise of equestrianism, although mounted on a third rate nag, came within an ace of defeating his antagonist, whose crack was of the very best blood. I have never indeed seen an American horse beneath the control of Flatman or some of his fellows, and I have no doubt he would astonish the natives.

No one visiting *The Spirit* office could fail to remark the high style of art in which the portraits of the racers had been executed—a matter the more to be wondered at on account of the limited patronage bestowed upon animal painting at that time, in comparison with the heavy sums given for individual portraits. The three principal artists in horse flesh were Mr. Troyes, who, after having failed in the east, has succeeded in producing several elaborate pictures on a very large scale, which have been favorably compared with Horace Vernet's oriental efforts; Buford, the son of the panorama painter; and Bob Clark, an eccentric Irish gentleman, the son of Sir James Clark, of Dublin Castle, and nephew to Lady Morgan. It is due to Mr. Troyes to say that his racing efforts were among the earliest efforts of a skill he has industriously matured, yet they were faithful portraits both in color and anatomy. Buford's pictures are mere jobs, executed to order, while Bob Clark executed his paintings, as he did everything else, in a willi-barum scarum manner, yet preserving the action of the horse in a most telling and ingenious style.

There was a singular turfman who occasionally visited the office, but for some reason best known to himself never would consent to run his horses on United States soil, although an American by birth and a resident of Ogdensburgh, in this State. Mr. Parrish was a patron of the Canadian turf, dressed in Canadian style, and assumed all the peculiarities of Canadian life and habits. It is alleged by those who knew him best that this renunciation of his allegiance originated through his intimate relations with a distinguished foreign adventuress, whose assumed or real title has flourished on our congressional records. The Countess America Vespucci came to this country to urge our government to make provision for her, upon the ground of being the lineal descendant of the navigator whose name had been bestowed upon this continent. The countess was an extremely handsome, accomplished and talented Genoese lady, whose claims were duly authenticated by the French minister, and hence she became a feature in the diplomatic circles at Washington, where she received the hospitable attention of the President and the heads of the State. Subsequently it leaked out that the countess had been the mistress of one of the Orleans princes, and that Louis Phillippe had dispatched her upon this plausible mission. The countess was indignantly expelled from Washington society, and after wandering from city to city, for want of a better dominion, consented to assume control of Parrish's baronial mansion at Ogdensburgh, the spacious grounds surrounding which he enclosed with a high stone wall to preclude possibility of vulgar gazing upon his fair guest and her nobility.

Another and still more eccentric visitor was a particular friend of Mr. Porter's, named James Banks, whose origin was as mysterious as his ways of life appeared to the initiated. He was chiefly known to the sporting world from having rolled a string of ten pins with Caleb McNulty for $10,000, and only won the game by making three consecutive ten strikes. His name was likewise connected with the robbery of a trunk from Pomeroy's Express, he being arrested on suspicion of that crime. Pomeroy's trunk contained $25,000 in gold coin; in Banks' trunk was discovered a similar amount, for the possession of which he refused to account, and was accordingly committed for trial. While Banks was in prison the true robber of the trunks was accidentally discovered, the most of its contents recovered, while the thief committed suicide. His innocence being established, Mr. Banks was honorably discharged, but he positively declined satisfying public curiosity as to the source whence he obtained the large amount of specie he carried with him in so careless a manner. The truth was that he was a Southern mail contractor, and had just dr

...ing made to attain a sufficiency of circulation ... expenses incurred in the double encourage... combined with the fine arts, a union, as to ... which an inconsiderate public possesses but the ... and that mostly erroneous.

...'s *Magazine* was an attempt to emulate the London ... in the higher walks of criticism, and with that aim ... an air and dignity which, from the initial number, ... the popularity of the magazine and reduced it ... control of a petty clique having nothing in common ... outside community. Although the editorship of *Put...*'s was anonymous, it was reported to be under the management of Charles F. Briggs, a cynical gentleman, formerly ... of the editors of the *Sunday Courier* and a contributor to the *Knickerbocker*, wherein he published a romance, purporting to de... city life, which he called "Harry Franco," a name he ... tacitly assumed as his particular literary cognomen. ...'s, like the *Atlantic Monthly*, being ... of the opinions of a select few whose writings alone are admitted to its columns, is justly regarded as a species of fossilism wholly at variance with the progressive spirit of the age, and in no wise to be taken as an exponent of American intellectuality.

Probably the ablest and most successful of our magazines have been those devoted to the commercial and financial interest, inasmuch as their contents have been adapted to the practical development of trade, to the illustration of economical doctrines and to the exposition of the law, national as well as international, applicable to the commercial condition. Beside these articles, emanating from the most competent sources, have always been liberally paid for, and for that reason their reliability has been substantiated as the opinions of competent authority.

Hunt's Merchants' Magazine, conducted by Freeman Hunt, opened a novel field to the mercantile world, as unexpected as it was practically appreciated. Assuming commerce to possess a scientific literature as profound as that of any other profession, Mr. Hunt secured the services of lawyers, of financiers, of economists, to produce short essays upon the relations of trade to law, politics and cognate matters, and in this way to enlighten the trader's mind upon themes meeting him at every step in his business life, and with the tendencies of which he could become familiarized without recourse to the professional services of the lawyer or political professor. The idea was an excellent one, and during the lifetime of Mr. Hunt his magazine was amply patronized by those for whose especial purpose it was designed and most ingeniously carried out.

The *Bankers' Magazine*, conducted with signal ability by J. Smith Homans, an economist of erudition, followed in the footsteps of Mr. Gilbart, the London banker, in bestowing upon banking, as a practical business, the dignity of a profession. With this aim he has reproduced articles from foreign sources inaccessible to a majority of readers, and issued original treatises, the result of theoretical and practical experience, from the pen of experienced financiers. As a matter of course such a plan is peculiarly acceptable to those immersed in the business, with their time so preoccupied by its cares as to preclude them from a personal investigation of obstruse and difficult subjects.

"SHAK EL DAHAR!"

OR,

After Dark Proceedings in Paris.

A TRUE STORY FOUNDED UPON FACT.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER

BY MELVILLE HERKIN.

On the evening of the 4th of September, 1866, our artistic club met as usual at their apartments in West Pall Mall, London. It was a custom amongst us to cast lots as to who of those present should amuse the rest by reciting a story to pass away the evening, which otherwise would have hung rather heavily on our hands. Fortunately for us, on this particular evening, the lot fell upon Mr. John St. Clare, whom we all knew had led a very adventurous, roving life, and that he had, moreover, the gift of the gab to make his stories interesting and amusing; so, expecting something extraordinary from him, we all drew our chairs up around the common fire, and listened attentively while he narrated the following facts:

"I well remember, one splendid summer's evening in July, about six o'clock, in 1866, I, John St. Clare, and my boon companion, Edouard Beauchamp, were sitting or rather reclining en couchee in front of our window on the *belle etage* of the Hotel de la Paix, Rue de Rivoli, Paris. We were smoking some Turkish cigarettes which had been presented by an *attache* of the Russian Embassy, and were puzzling our brains to invent some new method of suppressing *ennui* and of passing agreeably the coming evening, we having enjoyed and used up every conceivable pleasure to be found even in this gayest of gay cities, although only a week back we were sauntering along amid beauty and fashion, as displayed on Rotten Row, in London, bowing right and left to our numerous charming acquaintances. At last, not being able to decide on our evening's proceedings, we languidly dressed, being overcome by the excessive heat, determined to be guided by chance; so, giving our especial waiter orders to remain up until our return, we sauntered forth upon our rambles. Edouard Beauchamp, my companion, was a tall, dark, well formed young man of twenty-five years of age. He cultivated a heavy moustache, but no whiskers, dressed in the height of fashion, and had a pleasing though rather affected drawl in his speech. He invariably wore a pair of gig lamps, and I even believe he slept with them across his nose, as I never saw him without them. When aroused he was as courageous and daring as a lion, though when quiet he was peculiarly soft, agreeable, pleasing and gentlemanly; in his manners a favorite with the ladies, and, possessed of £10,000 a year, he had no wish or whim of his fancy ungratified. Now there is no need for me to give you a long description of myself, as you see me before you; suffice it then to say I am about the same height and shape as Edouard, dress exactly like him, the only difference being my hair, which is a light yellow, while his was jet black.

"Well, to go on where I left off, we strolled slowly down the Rue de Rivoli, and turning along the Rue de la Paix, we came to the large restaurant, dancing and billiard establishment of Wolf brothers. Going in there, as we had nothing else to do, we joined in the dance and afterwards walked home with our partners, two very superior young members of the *demi-monde*, intending to spend the night with them. They took us through several intricate lanes until we arrived before the back entrance of a highly fashionable house, the front of which looked upon the *Champs Elysees*. Muttering the strange words "Shak El Dahar," the door flew open, admitting us into a well lighted and superbly furnished hall; passing through this we ascended a flight of well carpeted, wide, marble stairs, then along what seemed to be an interminable passage with numerous doors on either side, from all of which there proceeded sounds of riotous merriment and uproarious laughter. Proceeding up another short flight of stairs, on the top of which we separated, I was ushered into a magnificently appointed bedroom by the young girl with me, who gave her name as Clara. Edouard, accompanied by his charmer, at the same time entered the next apartment.

"We both carried a six-barreled revolver, loaded to the muzzle, and a plentiful supply of ammunition. Locking the door, putting out the light, and placing my pistol under the pillow, I retired to rest, but notwithstanding all my efforts I could not compose myself to sleep, lying, as the most horrible stories I had ever heard of having been enticed by girls into houses of ill fame and murdered and never afterwards seen or their bodies ... occurred to my mind, and which it was impossible to ... While thus remaining awake I distinctly heard the bells of a neighboring church toll the hour of twelve, and then one, after which I thought I heard voices and movements overhead. Lying on my back and looking upwards, it seemed to me as if the bed-top was moving and coming down, as though to crush me; so pinching myself to make sure I was not dreaming and had all my senses about me, I watched it narrowly; and, as you may imagine, to my horror, I perceived it slowly descending, but so noiselessly that even I could not hear any sound, though awake; so what chance would a sleeping man have had? Just at this moment a slight double knock was given on the door of the room, which my partner, evidently understanding, and believing me to be fast asleep, she crept slowly out and stowed herself under the bed.

"Grasping my pistol I quietly followed her example, taking care to breathe lightly so as not to hear me; then, taking my seat in an easy chair near the window, I awaited further proceedings, with my eyes nearly starting from my head, and every faculty of hearing called into play. I could make out the hum of voices and regular muffled tramp of several persons overhead. Slowly but surely the pondrous machine murderously descended, worked, as I could now by close looking plainly perceive, by a massive screw coming through a hole in the ceiling, until it reached the bed, which it crushed with a fearful shock, and I could behold when imagining a human form to be lying under ... could be no hope of anybody being recognized after ... being been under that hellish monitor. Rising ... ding towards the bed, I stooped down and called Clara to come out, threatening to put a bullet through her if she made the slightest noise. In about ten minutes the top quietly ascended into its original position, and looked as harmless as any other bedstead might do. Questioning Clara as to what further was likely to take place, she informed me that nothing more would be attempted until the morning, she being expected to completely strip and rob my supposed dead body. Being safe myself, my thoughts turned naturally to Edouard; ill and sick at heart I felt when Clara told me that there was the same apparatus in every room in the house, and that perhaps he might be lying at this time a breathless corpse. I promised her, if she would aid me in escaping out of this den of murderers, to bring the police before her accomplices would be able, if she followed my plans, of finding out that she had betrayed them. After long persuading and many threats, she at last consented, at the same time imploring me not to forget her, as she would be surely murdered if I did not arrive before six o'clock, it being then about half past two in the morning.

"Promising to do this, we began to raise the window a hair's breadth at a time, so fearful was I that the gang would hear me; when this feat was at last successfully accomplished, I knotted the sheets and blankets as firmly together as I could, and flinging them out of the window, which was a third story on to the about thirty feet from the ground, and giving the end for Clara to hold, I commenced my descent and safely reached the yard. Kissing my hand to Clara, who was still in her night dress, I easily made my way into the street and ran as hard as I could until I met the patrol, who stopped me and requested the cause of my precipitous flight. In my excitement giving them only a confused idea of what had happened, I demanded to be taken to headquarters, which demand they instantly complied with. I was admitted into the presence of the superintendent, who would hear nothing until I had calmed myself; so, drinking a glass of sherry he offered me, I quickly, but thoroughly gave him a sketch of everything that had occurred, and beseeched him not to delay, as my friend might still be in the land of the living, and therefore in danger.

"He instantly ordered out bodies of police, thoroughly armed, at the same time donning his own habiliments, being determined, as he said, to overlook the attack on the house, so that not one of the scamps should escape. While proceeding towards the house he told me he had had suspicions that the house had something to do with the numerous disappearances of rich and influential gentlemen, lately, but that he had not been able to fix any one case on it as yet. Coming to the back of the house, and immediately under the window I had escaped from, he divided his force, and sent half of them round to the front so as thus completely to surround the building, giving them orders to attack it on all sides at once on a given signal. He, I, and two others were dragged up successively by Clara, who had now dressed, and whom the superintendent promised to set at liberty; and I, she being an exceedingly beautiful girl, promised, if we succeeded, to make her my wife. Directly we were inside, the superintendent gave the signal, and the house was simultaneously attacked on all sides, we forcing open the bedroom door, which had been fastened on the outside. All was quiet; the police who had forced open the front door, and those who had done the same for the back, met us in the hall not having seen anybody. Turning to Clara, we asked her if she knew of any other hiding place they could possibly be secreted in. She said she knew where they were; and, after we had seen if Edouard and his companion were safe, she would conduct us to their hiding place. So, proceeding up stairs, we tried to break open the door on receiving no answer when we knocked. Just as the door was about giving way, we heard a pistol fired and the bullet pierced the upper panel, very nearly settling my account forever. I immediately begged the police to desist trying to force it open, and calling Edouard by his name and assuring him we were friends, he unbolted and unlocked the door and fell into my arms. When I questioned him how he had escaped being crushed to death, he, pointing to his partner whose name was Louise, said that she, evidently having taken a fancy to him, and sorry that so brave a man should perish, had informed him—though at the risk of her life—of the nefarious contrivance of the bed, and had thus saved his life, for which act of kindness he, following my example, promised her marriage. So, preceded by Clara, we all went down stairs, when, leading us into a little, dirty lumber room, she pronounced in a loud voice those mysterious words, "Shak El Dahar," which I had heard her use when seeking admittance into the house in the evening before. As she uttered the words a hitherto unseen door in the wall flew open, and discovered two old men holding lamps on the top of a flight of dark stairs leading underneath. ... ...

THEATRICAL RECORD.

Movements, Business, and Incidents of the Theatrical, Circus, Musical and Minstrel Profession.

Clipper Post Office.

TAKE NOTICE.—A stamped envelope, with address, must be enclosed or each and every letter sent for.

Edwin Booth (2), McKean Buchanan (2) Bil Lacounta, Bidwell & Locke, N. D. Roberts, R. H. Brink, L. M. Wickwire, Harry Stanwood, Austin Brothers, Carl Rosa, E. M. Conrad, A. R. Phelps, John Donoghue, Thomas Owens 23d, Edwin Adams, Continental Vocalists (William Arlington (2), J. R. Healey, Fyon Adams, Ben Brown, James Taylor (2), William Cryder, Geo. F. Bailey, Frank Wilder, George Costello, J. E. Green, John Sherman, C. D. L., Jerry Cohan, Geo Monk, Frank Barry, Dan Morris, J. H. Trewolla, H. J. Allen, Frank Robinson, John Glearoy, Mr. Kerpson, R. H. Thompson, Barney Williams, F. K. Thompson, D. H. Harkins, Geo. Edesen, Tommy De Voe Sam Cole, Adam Forepaugh, W. S. Shadman, Mrs. H. W. Hagan, Mrs. E. T. Stetson, Sig. Lopez, Martha Gibbs. Mrs. Bevins, Leona Cavender (2), Miss L. Cilde, Annie Gibbons, Mollie Williams, Senorita Marie, Kate Rynar,

John Purcell, S. R. Howe, J. T. Hinds, James E. Cook, James Fisk, Frank Edwards, Charles Melville, Billy Burke, John Dowling, Steve Williams, Low Gaylord, John L. Williams 10c McKee Rankin, Yankee Robinson, Walter F. Lester, Clinton Tayleure, Geo. Clark, Burnell Iwancells, George Roscoe, Joseph Rainer, M. McGuffin, Jacob Showles, Thomas Canham, A. J. Spencer (2), Edwin Holmes, John Nathans, Mr. Fiske, R. F. Tyrrel, John Jarrett, James Collins J. Wm. Leys, Henry Dobson. A. G. Cooper, S. D. Persse, Frank Kent, Henry Pullman, Frank Sherwood, Frank Campbell, Neil Grey, Justin Bulsay 10c., James Maguire, A. Wilson, E. D. Gooding, D. Hanchett, C. H. Clark, W. G. Chrimsle, Sig Faranti, C. Williams, Caroline Hayes, Pauline Cushman, Kate Graham, Laura Keene, Dollie Pike, Theresa Berrie, May Fiske (3), Rilie Berger, Fanny Melmer,

M. S. Pike, Chas. Whitney, J. G. Boyd, M. L. Townsend (2), James Walters (2), Chas. Foster, John Germon, Ben Wheeler, Harry Gurr, Julian Breban, Add Ryman, James Robinson, Panorama Manager, John O'Brien, Frank Delaney, J. Webb, A. M. Hernandez, Chas. Pettenzill, A. Henderson, J. M. French, T. L. Fitch, Arnold Joans, John L. Luther, Johnny Sherdan (2), Edwin Holmes, D. E. Townsend, John Murray, E. Pallihorp, James Nelson, James L. Thayer, F. A. Older, Ben Maginley, James McKissch, R. H. Height, Gus Lawrence, J. Lew King, George Melville, Charles Noyes, D. C. La Rue, T. H. Jefferson (2), John Joel, Dick Willis, Harry St. Leon, Gus Howard, C. M. Parsloe, Sid ey Cooke, James Taylor 16c., Annie Yeomans 16c., Bella Jefferson, Sig. Lopez, Martha Gibbs. Mrs. Bevins, Leona Cavender (2), Miss L. Cilde, Annie Gibbons, Mollie Williams, Senorita Marie, Kate Rynar, Vic Howard, Lizzie La Grange, Lottie Forrest, Louisa Wray 19c., Jennie Gourlay,

Notice.

ADVERTISERS must hand in their favors before 6 o'clock on Monday evening, in order to have them appear in that week's issue.

City Summary.

MONDAY, Jan. 11, '69.

THE HOLIDAYS being fairly at an end, everything is beginning to settle down or float along in its legitimate or illegitimate channel, trade and recreation depending upon the needs of the regular patrons rather than upon an inflated holiday traffic. The year opens upon our amusements in a less auspicious manner than formerly, for though theatres and halls of entertainment are sufficiently plentiful, yet money is somewhat scarce or contracted. In fact, we are just beginning to discover that New York city—large as its population may be—has at the present time full as many places of amusement as it can support; some good judges contend that we have too many such places for our one million inhabitants, and that it is owing to this cause that some of the theatres are a trifle "off" just now. There may be as much money expended in such matters at present as there was five or six years ago, but this sum is now divided among an increased number of managers, and while certain of those managers find a balance on the right side at the close of the season, others cannot, even by the aid of our patent 'adding machines," count up sufficient to pay their indebtedness and leave a margin for the procuration of a week's board and lodging. There are many things operating to the disadvantage of our theatres at this particular time of the year, prominent among which might be mentioned balls, parties, and skating. This latter, especially, exercises a depressing influence upon indoor amusements of all sorts. In addition to the large number of dramatic establishments already in existence, others are in course of completion, while others, again, are being projected. When these new places, added to those already in operation, shall be thrown open to the public, it will require considerable *finesse* on the part of managers to make both ends meet. Minstrelsy is not so flourishing as in former years, and one company, which did a splendid business the two past seasons, has given up for the purpose of "taking a trip to Europe." Kelly & Leon's Minstrels opened their hall on Broadway, a few seasons ago, under the most encouraging auspices. The managers, for a while, worked together kindly in harness, and for a time all "went merry as a marriage bell," but the merry marriage bell does not always proclaim the continued happiness and prosperity of the high contracting powers, and we have been told by a "reliable contraband" that the toll of a marriage bell in the happy family tolled the knell of the harmony heretofore existing, and from that time discord entered into their compositions, and there has been some hicking in the traces, until things have attained the culminating point which renders a "voyage by sea" a necessary rejuvenator; and so there is an end. Bryants' *must* suffer, we should judge, by the opening of "Tammany" over their heads. When the Bryants took a lease of their hall in the lower part of Tammany at a rental of fifteen thousand dollars a year they no doubt labored under the idea that there was to be no other amusement in the building, except that afforded by the live Indians up stairs, which could not interfere with their colored brethren's on the ground floor. We shall not be surprised, therefore, to see the Bryants throw up their contract, leave the ranche on Fourteenth street, and turn their attention to Broadway. Ah! well, they say that all is fair in war, but we do not think Tammany has done the right thing in times of peace. But what of that? Just so—that puts us in mind of something which once came under our observation, and in verse we'll tell you

WHAT OF THAT?

I saw them under the gas light's glare
Alone and merry as they could be;
He, with his dark eyes beaming bright,
Gay and laughing and happy, she;
I saw him stoop and hold her hands.
And his lips went under her little hat;
Oh, the kisses of maidens are very sweet,
And he kissed her again. Well, what of that?

I saw them coming away from church,
Surrounded by friends on every side;
And he gazed with those tender and beaming eyes,
With pride in his heart, on his fair young bride.
And there, 'mid the blossoms on her brow,
Quiet contentment sweetly sat;
Joy seemed to smile on the happy pair—
Married and settled. Well, what of that?

I saw them again, in after years,
Walking together to take the air,
With their children—a perfect flight of stairs,
All, gether, say seven pair.
He (she) he looked wrinkled and thin,
But she—she looked rosy and very fat;
Time works a most wonderful change in things;
Don't it? You think so. Well, what of that?

.....Talking of making both ends meet, "Our Jim" says he has a soldier friend who lost both arms in the late war, but he is by no means an idler, or a dependent on others; "or," says Jim, "he has a good many thin s on hand." Jim praises his pen manship, telling that he writes a be utiful hand with his toes. Of course we are rejoiced to learn that he is not *toe-tooly* useless, and are convinced that the armless soldier must be very handy, indeed. .....The marriage last week of Gaslight Daly reminds us of a marriage notice we saw in the paper the other day of a man named Callahan to a woman named Cullihan. We couldn't help remarking that he took a cool way of knocking her "i" out...., During the late foggy, drizzly, disagreeable weather, when everybody else had the blues, "Our Jim" was in one of his happiest moods, laughing, and chatting, and joking in the most merrimental manner. Upon asking the cause of this untoward happiness and hilarity, Jim said that he always feels contented on a damp, foggy morning, because he knows that kind of a weather will always do good .....A curious branch of promise case was recently brought to light before a "referee," and, through one of his confidential clerks, revealed to us, but we say nothing. It appears that a gentleman of some means and repute became fascinated with the blandishments and legs of one of our "coryphees;" so, she being willing, an engagement for life was entered into between them. The day had been *set*, and a nice set of people had been invited to the wedding. The gentleman, with Jon Bunny in every feature, went west for the purpose of selling a farm he owned there, and was delayed some time after the sale, but sent on to our bewitching coryphee sufficient fund to prepare a handsome *set out*, and then *set out* soon after to keep his *appointment;* but great *disappointment* awaited him; for on his arrival he found that while he had been selling his farm, she had been selling him, and had married the young teller that drives the steam engine of military company No. Ten thousand and six, 4th battalion, sappers an miners. The late owner of the farm, finding that he had no longer any chance *to court fat gal*, to *court lat gal* was brought to answer for the dislocation of a bleeding heart. But, 'twas ever thus. Lis en, while we tell of another

FALSE ONE.

"Jewels glistened in her ears,
Jewels flashed from out her hair,
Jewels clasped her wrists and arms,
Jewels, jewels everywhere;
It appeared as though the East
Had been ra sacked o'er and o'er,
To procure the costly gems
That the beauteous actress wore."

"Costly!" Ah, you verdant youth,
Your ideas are very slight
Of the worth of those bright gems
She so proudly wore to-night.
Hark! enthusiastic boy!
Let me whisper in your ear,
All those diamonds are paste,
Yes, mere "Californi."

.....For a long time Our "Man in the Flies" has been seeking an opportunity to give his views of "Hamlet" from an upper at ic stand-point, but thus far he seems to have got off the track at every attempt made to speak his piece about the melancholy Dane; but we are now assured tha he has succe ded in surmounting all obstacles and in the following well-intended hand- rit he has got well into his subject. We let him go on in his own peculiar style, which is some what of a cross between "Our Jim's" and the "Soap Fat Man's." Hear a voice

FROM THE MAN IN THE FLIES.

MR. EDDITUR.—A few weeks ago I sot down to give you mi ideas of "Amil-t," as embodded in mi origi nale performances of that immortal roal, wich may be sed to ha' been the makin o Shakespeare, wich we also to av ben the makin of two Booth's, and wich has ben a ansom livin to an ole line of trade, tans from Kean upwards. As I be one remarst, it was in o day times and mi name was before the public in that parl, but owin to some little difficulty with the staige manager, on thought it ard that Amlet should go hon with the scrapes, (although I told him it was mi conceptshun, and if anybody ad ther I told him it was mi conceptshun, and if anybody ad ther I told him it was mi conceptshun, and if anybody ad ther

...the ballet. Dan Rowe, the gymnast, still retains ... and has introduced new acts. Richard Clark ... of the fancy business in a very clever style. ... the knife juggler, is much of an attraction, his portion of the programme just being well executed. At the ... Hall, a glorious old bill o' good things is constantly ... by the company at present in rally up to the usual good ... and the stage manager, G. S. Hall, continues ... his forces in a satisfactory way. A programme ... now is provided twice each week, and fresh ... are being constantly added to the company. The ... or minstrel scene, is an important feature, and could be dispensed with. Songs and choruses are nicely rendered, the ends are exceedingly well maintained by Charlie Howard, Johnny Harris. The comic artiste Buckingham and ... two sister closed their engagement last evening, the 9th inst. ... Carrie Gardner, vocalist, commenced on the 7th inst. ... Edwards remains in the troupe, and with the patrons of the establishment is a very great favorite. Miss Edwards uses ... taste in the matter of dress, and also displays judgment in the selection of songs, singing nothing but new and ... Viola Clinton retired from the company last ... The comic travesty "The versus Powder," and the funny ... "Two in One," have been amusingly performed. Jennie ... Miss Holmes in vocal efforts; Ella Sheldon and Julia ... in Terpsichorean exercises; Marie Zoel in her pleasing medley, and Kate Clinton in her champion jig. Tomorrow evening, the 11th inst., Mons. Veaudemont, Josephine ... La Favre, Irma and Olivia, make a first appearance. The management have engaged these artistes in addition to the regular company, to appear in the Parisian sensation, the ... Can Can. The dance is announced to be given in gran style, ... arranged expressly for this bijou theatre by Mons Veaudemont.

PARKER AND BATEMAN, double song and dance men, are under engagement to open at the Varieties, Memphis, Jan. 18th, also Miss Minnie Pell and Charley Fox.

THE RICHARDS, Indianapolis, Ind., has changed its name, and is now called "Theatre Comique." George Madden and George Shay commenced on the 2d. Harry Bond and Johnny Morton return on the 11th. J. A. Hodges, the Irish comedian, continues to be well received in his Hibernian ... character and songs. Miss Minnie Clark is the principal lady attraction, in conjunction with Miss Lillie Wheeler, Maggie Clark, Nelly Dawson and Millie Estelle. George C. Thompson and Frank Wilson are on the ends in the first part, with Georgie as interlocutor.

C. H. WELCH, manager of the Theatre Comique, Detroit, Mich., is at present in this city in search of talent for his place of amusement. He will be seen by an advertisement elsewhere, a full company is wanted.

OLD SAN LAURENT, the oldest clown in America, commenced an engagement at Theatre Comique, Indianapolis, on the 7th.

THE ALHAMBRA, San Francisco, Cal., appears to be doing a good business. The panorama of "A Trip Around the World" was unveiled on Dec. 14th, to a large audience, and was presented the ugh out the week. The panorama is given in conjunction with an explanatory and humorously characteristic "First Part" by the Californi Minstrels and the accompaniment of a brass band. The transit of the painting affords views of the city and bay of San Francisco, the bay and city of Panama, railroad across the Isthmus, Aspinwall and steamship dock, Liverpool, London, natural scenery in Scotland and Germany, Paris, music combat between the Kearsarge and Alabama off Cherbourg, scenery in Ireland, and views of Montgomery and Bush streets, San Francisco. Olivia Rand was the recipient of a benefit on Dec. 10th, and the Eureka Guard took ... on the 12th

MOON'S HALL, Catskill, N. Y., located in the centre of the village, has a seating capacity for seven hundred. It has a stage and is lit with gas. Parties wishing to rent the hall can address as per advertisement.

THE GAIETIES THEATRE, Memphis, Tenn., is open for the season, under the management of the lessee, J. H. Ryley. Ethiopian comedians, *danseuses*, pantomimists and gymnasts are advertised for by the manager, whose card see in another column.

PLATTER'S HALL, Chillicothe, Mo., which is furnished with stage and dressing rooms, and seats about six hundred, is advertised in another column.

THE VARIETIES, Memphis, Tenn., is reported to be doing well with the following company:—Millie Frances, Misses Bidford, Leslie and Janette, *danseuses*. Miss Helene Devere is sick. Jim Johnson, general performer; Cora Gardner, Sr., and Chas. Gardner, Jr.

BOB HART, late of the Olympic Varieties, New Orleans, having associated himself with a gentleman of that city, is now running the Napoleon Music Hall, a free and easy place. Bob is on hand to greet his many friends.

AT THE VARIETIES, Baltimore, the Can-Can was to be withdrawn on the 9th to make room for a new spectacular *ballet*, introducing Miles. Lupo and Augusta, together with Mons. Boldo, J. M. Ward and should favorites.

AT THE NEW AMERICAN, Baltimore, business is said to continue good with a miscellaneous programme. This week a dash will be made at the semi-legitimate, when a home mission, entitled "Pluto," will be produced. Considerable expense has been incurred in preparing it.

J. G. H. SHOREY'S benefit in New Haven, Conn., on Jan. 7th, was a decided success. Paddy Hughes was one of the contestants for a silver goblet to be given to the best amateur jig dancer. All three danced, but Paddy Hughes and Tommy Doyle (for whom given) were both obliged to have a second trial, in which Doyle was decided the winner of the goblet. Naomi Power and J. Lovett are to appear at this place on the 11th.

THERE HAVE BEEN some sweep ng changes in the Music Hall business in Cincinnati since our last report. Kappes and Parker closed as proprietors at Oxford Music Hall, and Dick Parker went over to the Race street Varieties as treasurer and manager. Lew Cavana went to the Sixth Street Varieties, taking Clarke's place there, and W. J. Jacobs went to a new place "over the Rhine." The re-organized company at Oxford Hall is rather slim, consisting of E. S. Miller, stage manager; Master Reed and Charley Bartine, Belle Miller, Pepita Olivia and Lucy Connelly. The Race Street Varieties has now the largest and most complete company, and their hall is also pronounced the best. The stock comprises Dan Conner, stage manager; Mad Reed, bones; Dick Parker, Celia Ilford, Lizzie Wheton and Josie Syracuse, with W. H. Park, leader of orchestra. . . . A new Variety establishment has been opened on ... street, "over the Rhine," by a Mr. Colebrand, of which W. J. Jacobs, late of the Oxford Hall, is manager. . . . . The proprietors of the Race Street Hall are trying to get the Fourth Street Theatre.

SCHAEFFER'S OPERA HOUSE, Canton, O., having a seating capacity of twelve hundred, with stage, dressing rooms and scenery, is advertised to rent. See the proprietor's card in another column.

AT THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Nashville, on the 7th, for the first time in that city, was presented the "White Fawn."

Miscellaneous.

GEN. TOM THUMB, wife, Commodore Nutt and Miss Minnie Warren, showed at Odd Fellows' Hall, Mobile, Ala., on the 1st and 2nd inst. On the 2d they gave two entertainments.

THE DAVENPORT BROTHERS, assisted by Wm. M. Fay, commenced a short season in Washington, on the 6th instant, at Metzer's Hall.

JOHN B. G. ... and at Harrisburg, Pa., on the 11th, for the benefit ... of the Friendless. Subject, "Circumstances."

PATROLLER ... tured at Harrisburg, last week, for the benefit of the ... Mechanics' Social Library Association." Subject, "Connecticut and Canada."

BANJO LESSONS sent by mail by S. Gulliver, who advertises in another column.

PROF. DE CAUX, comic ventriloquist, advertises that he can be encared after 25th.

A LADY VOCALIST is wanted at Phœnix Hall, Davenport, Iowa. See advertisement in another column.

PROF. L. HASELMAYER advertises that he can be engaged to give his entertainments (music and magic). See his card elsewhere.

A GOOD AGENT is wanted for a gift show. See advertisement.

THE FAKIR OF AVA AND WESTON performed at St. James Hall, Buffalo, N. Y., to crowded houses, four nights, from the 6 h.

CLARK BRIGGS KELLOGG gives a concert on the 21st at the Opera House, Buffalo, N. Y., the second and last one takes place on the 9th.

THE PEAK AND BERGER FAMILY appeared in Piqua, Ohio, on Jan. 1st and 2d. They give, says a correspondent, "a good performance, but though portions of the programme are somewhat stale, particularly the pirouettes and songs of Sol. Smith Russell, the couple in question are clever."

SPAULDING'S ... RINGERS appear on the 11th, for one night, ...

DISTIN'S ... BRASS AND REED INSTRUMENTS can be had of Boosey & ... advertise in another column.

MARK ... in Terre Haute, Ind., on the 4th.

BLIND ... commenced on the 14th in Indianapolis.

HARRY ... Harry Sabe, and John Jubilee have organized a Gift Concert ... with W. Marshall as advance agent. They show in Cambridge City, Ind., on the 11th, 12th and 13th; Connersville, 14th, 15th, and 16th; and at Rushville, 18th, 19th, and 20th.

ALONZO ... a youth of seventeen, intimates in an advertisement in our columns, that he wishes to bind himself to a responsible manager.

THE OPERA HOUSE at Auburn, N. Y., furnished in good style, and every way adapted to the wants of traveling dramatic companies—having stage, scenery and dressing rooms—is for hire or rent by the single night or week, as will be seen by the agent's card in another column.

... TOM concertised in Cleveland, Ohio, on Jan. 7th, 8th and 9th.

THE PROGRAMME for a grand musical festival in Boston, to take place in June next, to commemorate the restoration of peace and the Union, is published. It promises an orchestra of 1,000 performers.

THE FRANK BROTHERS' MINSTRELS AND BRASS BAND, with Hugh McNany and Chat Coon on the ends, and George M. Alee as middle man, and the following company:—Alec Brown, John Davis, Cliff Maynard, Jim Curley, Gus Burgess, Jim Purdy, Hi Coon, and W. H. Purdy, are organizing in this State, and will start on a western tour the latter part of this month.

THOMPSON AND PARKHURST'S CONCERT TROUPE were billed for Fairfield and Mount Pleasant, Iowa, the last week.

THE ARLINGTONIANS are said to be successful on their west ... tour. They were advertised at Des Moines Jan. 8th and 9th, and are to be at Burlington, 11th. The *Daily* (Davenport) *Democrat* says:—"Mr. Bo lard still retains that deep, smooth bass voice, unlike any other, as when we first heard him some twenty years ago."

MARTINO is billed for Burlington, Iowa, for five nights, commencing Jan. 11th. Arnold Jones is also d.

THE LAMONT BROTHERS, gymnasts, were to put in a second appearance at Des Moines on Jan. 7th.

PRESTIDIGITATION.—The Fakir of Ylahun, at the close of his performance in New York's eve, in Minneapolis, Minn., invited his agent, Mr. G. H. Twombly, and treasurer, Mr. G. A. Jennass, to visit his room at the hotel, in order to consult in reference to the route for the future. Reaching the room, the Fakir turned to the gentlemen and remarked that in a business connection of two years he had ever found them prompt and faithful in the discharge of every duty, and as a slight token of his appreciation of their services, and of the personal esteem in which he held them, he desired to make them a trifling present, and wish them a Happy New Year. Whereupon he placed in the hands of each an elegant gold watch, suitable engraved. On the following day Messrs. Jennass and Twombly presented the Fakir with a costly and elegant seal ring.

THOMAS SALMON contracted with the proprietor of Moore's Opera House, Neosburgh, N. Y., for the use of said edifice on the occasion of a lecture by Nasby. When the time came the hall was poorly lighted and not warmed sufficiently. Salmon refused to pay the rent on that account. The proprietor sued for his money, but the courts held that the defendant was in the right, and Salmon rejoices, in company with Nasby himself, greatly, and the proprietor of the Opera House is wrath.

THE "CONTINENTAL VOCALISTS" sang in Dayton, Ohio, on the 5th and 6th; Springfield, 7th; Urbana, 8th and 9th; and were to go thence to Delaware 11th and 12th. Frank Lamb, the humorist, has made a hit in his song, "When a Man is a Little Bit Poorly."

A SET of well dressed Punch and Judy figures are advertised for sale by Rice, Yates, who's card see elsewhere.

THE NEW YORK HARMONIC SOCIETY is vigorously at work rehearsing Mendelssohn's Oratorio of "Elijah." The chorus is large and efficient, and much interest is manifested by the members. The public performances will take place on Thursday evening, Feb. 11.

THE PEAK AND BERGER FAMILY perform in Louisville, Ky., Jan. 25 to 28th, 30th, 31st and 2d, and go thence down the river to Memphis.

PHILO CLARK, a gentleman well known in the profession, advertises for an engagement to travel as advance agent for any good entertainment.

PAUL ... with his children, Ernest and Edgar, who appear to be ... made a hit at the Metropolitan Hall, Washington, D. C., advertise in another column.

THE GREGORY FAMILY, one performing at the Pittsburgh Theatre, are prepared to negotiate with managers. See advertisement in ... house.

... and medicines are advertised for ... A Lady ... Chester? Oh, pshaw! You don't know D... Indian takes all forms."

But though his lordship strove to satisfy his ...

THE SPALDING ... RINGERS were at Jamestown, Pa., on the 9th, and will be at Cleveland, Ohio, on the 15th and 16th.

PAREPA ROSA is booked for one concert at the Opera House, Elmira, N. Y., on the 23d inst.

THE TRIBUNE AND PARVI opened at Masonic Hall, New Orleans, on Jan. 4th.

CHAS. MAC EVOY, the proprietor of MacEvoy's Hibernicon, which he has copyrighted, gives notice through an advertisement, that any one infringing his right will be prosecuted.

THE CONTINENTAL OLD FOLKS appear in New Haven, Conn., Jan. 19th, 12th and 14th.

MARTINO, the gift fakir, puts in for six nights in Burlington, Iowa, beginning on the 11th.

THE ALLEGHANIANS sing in Burlington, Iowa, on the 16th.

TAYLOR'S OPERA HOUSE, Trenton, N. J., which is large enough to hold $700 at a moderate admission fee, is advertised to rent.

PROF. A. RYAN, and his son, master Rolla Ryan, gave an entertainment at Pike's Music Hall, Cincinnati, on the 7th, commencing with a lecture by the Prof. entitled, "The true, the beautiful, and the good," and followed by recitations, among which were Poe's "Raven" and "Bell's," and Read's "Sheridan's Ride." He is about to make a tour of the South.

THE BURNETT AND TAYLOR COMBINATION met with such success in Cincinnati that they remained all the past week at the Fourth street theatre, drawing very well. On Jan. 7th Alf. Burnett took a "ben." on which occasion he offered prizes for the best declamations from school children. Some dozen boys and girls of the District and High school-competed, and a very large house was the result. Taylor took his benefit on the 9th, and he adopted the plan of offering prizes or the best amateur singers. The combination left Cincinnati considerably heavier in pocket than it went, and demonstrated that a good attraction could make the little theatre pay.

THE HARMONIC SOCIETY, of Cincinnati, gave a concert at Pike's Hall on the 5th, the solos being given by Prof. Smith, Mrs. Carrick, and Miss Josie Jones, the latter making a very brilliant *début*.

Amateur.

THE SHAKESPEARE CLUB, of Cincinnati, produced "Pocahontas," on the 5th inst. Quite a number of local and new "stars" were introduced, and some modern music, including airs from the "Grand Duchesse" and "Captain Jinks." The parts of Powhatan, Smith, Rolf and Pocahontas, were well done, the singing especially, by Dodds Guilford. Ray and Miss Schultz. . . . . The Davenport Club essayed "Hamlet" on the 8th. The Hamlet of the evening, Mr Toms, was a clever failure, but some of the other characters, such as Mr. Kennedy's Polonius, were good. . . . . The Woodward Circle, another amateur organization of the same burgh, gave the "Robbers" on the 8th.

THE WHEATLEY DRAMATIC ASSOCIATION, of Philadelphia, gave the English version of the "Grand Duchess" at their new hall, Fifth and Gaskill streets, on the 13th inst. The piece has been adapted from the original French opera, by Wm. B. Harman, expressly for the "Wheatley." The orchestra will be under the direction of Prof. Fred Meyer. This is the first attempt on the part of any amateur association in Philadelphia to produce a comic opera.

Foreign Show News.

ADELINA PATTI has at last quitted Paris. The few *débutantes* who have appeared during the winter in Paris to oppose her, soon yielded before her storied triumphs. Patti has especially succeeded in Paris this season in opera buffo, and more especially on Sunday, when this the fashion to make up the opera bill with scenes from different operas. Patti bade farewell to Paris in the first act of the "Traviata," and the third of the "Somnambula." The "Italiens" was thoroughly crowded from the pit to the roof; so great is the popularity of La Diva that it was almost impossible to breathe, and the heat was unsupportable. Every note called forth a peal of applause; but then Patti never sang better. When, after "La Traviata" the curtain began to fall, five bouquets and a gold crown were thrown on the stage. Three times the favorite had to reappear before the curtain. This, however, cannot be compared to the ovation that greeted her after the "Somnambula." A torrent of bouquets and flower coronets poured on the stage. The whole audience standing up would not cease shouting and applauding with excitement and enthusiasm. Handkerchiefs fluttered in the air, and the expanse resounded again and again with the cries of "good-bye!" and "au revoir!" Five times recalled, five times Patti advanced to the very front of the stage. Overcome at last, it appears, the popular idol could not suppress her tears.

MEYERBEER'S "Prefata" and Rossini's "Cenerentola" have been the late successes at the Pergola Theatre, Florence.

FERUCCI is the name of a new soprano who is exciting the opera goers of Mexico.

PERETTI, a new tenor in Genoa, is highly praised there by a more critical public much disposed to grumbling.

MR. BORSCHATZ has purchased a piece of land at Passy, near Paris, in which he intends erecting a villa for a spring residence. We hear this author has a piece in manuscript for Drury Lane.

MR. H. MONTAGUE, one of the proprietors of the Christy Minstrel troupe announces Wilsome and Montague's, has undertaken the lesseeship of the Theatre Royal, Bircenhead. A Christmas pantomime was to be produced on Boxing night.

IN A little operetta, entitled "Les Horreurs de la Guerre," ridiculing the profession of arms, which had a great run in Paris, two Norman Grand Dukes, each at the head of four soldiers, resolve to go to war for the possession of a fair damsel.

MADLLE. MARIE DUVAL, a young French lady of some reputation as a clever and lady-like amateur actress, was to make her *début* at the St. James' Theatre on Dec. 23th

THE NEW GAIETY THEATRE, London, opened on Dec. 21st.

THE ST JAMES' THEATRE, London, was to be reopened on Boxing Night, with a new piece, bearing the suggestive title of "Olivette," in which Miss Lucy Rushton was to make her first appearance since her return from America, in the principal role (Lucy Trevlyn). The piece contains the names of Miss Maria Simpson, Mrs. Poyn er, Mr. George Jordan, Mr. Gus on Murray and Mr. Charles Coghlan. Two gentlemen, Mr. Flockton and Mr. Arthur Williams, hitherto strangers to a London public, were to make their first appearance on the occasion.

MR. SOTHERN concluded one of the most brilliant engagements he has ever played in Liverpool on Dec. 24th, and this is the more complimentary when the season of the year is considered (just before Christmas being notoriously bad time for theatres). During eight nights of the engagement it has been necessary to remove the orchestra in order to provide extra stalls, and every secured seat in the house, including even side boxes, had been engaged days before.

MR. TALBOT, tragedian, was to sail from Plymouth, Eng., on Dec. 28th, for Melbourne, in the ship Lincolnshire. He purposes returning to England in about fifteen months.

LADY DON appeared Dec. 21st at the Theatre Royal, South Shields, in two of her favorite characters, the Child of the Regiment and Black-Eyed Susan.

THESPIRIALS IN CALCUTTA.—"Arrah Na Pogue" was produced in Calcutta on Nov. 21st.

THE TRIGGER.

PIGEON SLAYING IN MASSACHUSETTS.

There was a pretty strong muster of trigger experts at River side Park, near the modern Athens on Tuesday, 5th inst., when three pigeon matches were contested, Ira Payne, the singer, and no ed New York shot, being one of the principals in each. The shooting was delayed some time on account of the rain, but when this stopped the first match was at once commenced. This was between Mr. Payne, of New York, and Mr. Hunter, of Boston, at seven single birds, Mr. Payne at 25 yards rise, and Mr. Hunter at 21, guns to weigh less than 7½ pounds, and 80 yards boundary. Mr. Payne shot from a breech loader weighing 7 lbs. 6 oz., and Mr Hunter from a muzzle loader weighing 7 lbs. 2 oz. Considering the weight of the guns the shooting was good, especially as the birds were particularly strong, being the best that have ever been trapped at the park. Mr. Hunter lost his first bird by careless gathering, and his fourth and tenth birds fell dead out of bounds, but he succeeded in winning the match by a single bird. The following is the score:—

Hunter . . . . 0111111110—9 | Quincy . . . . 1101101010—6

The next match was between Mr. Payne and Mr Quincy, of Boston, at ten single birds, 21 yards rise, and in this Mr. Payne used a muzzle loader. Mr. Quincy did not shoot so steadily as usual, and he lost the match by three birds, as will be seen by the score below:—

Payne . . . . 0111111111—9 | Quincy . . . . 1101101010—6

Mr. Payne and Mr. John Schoverer then shot a match at eleven birds, Mr. Payne giving his antagonist three dead birds to his score, 21 yards rise, 80 yards boundary. This showed some excellent shooting, and, as the score will show, it was a close thing, and had no one of Mr. Schoverer's birds fallen out of bounds, the result might have been changed. The following is the score:—

Payne . . . . 01111111111—10 | Schwoerer . . . . 11111110111—9

A STRANGE ACCIDENT.—An accident of a singular character occurred at Mechanic Fall, Me., on the 2d inst. It appears that two brothers, Aronso and Eldridge Y. Turner, had been on a hunting exp dition with a friend named Robinson, and were about to enter their carriage to return to their home in Auburn, when Eldridge, saying he "would remove the caps from the gun so that they could ride home safe," took up Mr. Robinson's double barreled gun, and throwing it across his left arm, half cocked both hammers and removed both the caps, which were the kind called "double water proof." While putting them in his pocket one barrel of the gun was discharged, still lying across his arm. The charge of the gun—a "fox charge" of treble B shot—all lodged near the left eye, blowing the side of his head and skull completely off, so that portions of his brain lay at least six feet from the body. Upon examination the hammers of the gun were found to be still at half cock, and it is a mystery how the discharge was effected, unless by the friction upon the tube, caused by removing the caps, which were put on after common, non-waterproof caps had been removed. The accident is one of the most singular on record.

THEODORE PRESTICH IN JERSEY.—A pigeon shooting match for the suppers was contested near Ironton, N. J., on the 7th inst., between a dozen residents of that village, six on a side, ten single birds each. The result was as below, several, owing to the scarcity of birds, shooting at nine only:—

J. J. Ford	1101111010—7	F. Payne	1000010010—3
D. K. Treadwell	1140111111—7	J. Taylor	0110111110—7
W. T. Lee	0111111111—8	Wm. Bloor, Sr.	0111111111—8
Jas. Allen	1011111111—8	J. H. Lee	1111101101—8
M. Skerm	010 1101)—5	Wm. Bloor, Jr	1011111111—8
M. G. Francis	1111111111—9	Wm Benson	1101111111—7
Total	43	Total	39

STRANGE GAME.—At Visalia, Cal., in November, a party of hunters, while on an excursion in the neighborhood of Kern Lake, were startled by an unusual noise, and presently saw a large object approaching with great speed. When it had arrived within two hundred yards of the hunters they discovered it was a boy, nearly naked, and so sunburned that they could no determine whether he was an American or a Spaniard. The hunters started in pursuit, but the "wild boy" fled with such rapidity that they soon lost sight of him. The hunters, whose names are given, are well known in Watsonville, and the paper which publishes the letter vouches for the truth of the statements.

A GOOD PLACE FOR TRICHINE-SCENTRY.—A gentleman who has lately explored the islands of Pyramid Lake, in Utah, which are avoided from some superstitious fear by the Indians, says that it is impossible in the incubating season to walk on the islands without stepping on the eggs of gulls, ducks, pelicans and other aquatic fowl. Two small rocky islands are alive with rattlesnakes, which bask in the shade of almost every stone; so that an intruder is two treated to serenade by a dozen or more rattles of various degrees of power and shades of tone.

TOURNEY IN CANADA.—On the 27th inst. a pigeon shooting tournament is to take place at Toronto, C. W., open to all residents of the Dominion, subscription fee, $10, each competitor to furnish his birds, and shoot at fifty (25 single and twelve double rises); the single rises are to be shot from 21 and 17 ground traps, 21 yards rise and 80 yards boundary, and the doubles from 21 and 1 plunge traps, 18 yards rise and 100 pound rv, 1¼ ounce shot. Four prizes are offered, the first being a silver goblet and the others money prizes.

DEER STALKING.—Deer were never more plentiful in the north ... ages, New York, than they have been this winter. One hunter named Milo Baker can boast about thirty men to hunt for him during the season, and sends the product of their guns and skill to market. Thus far he has sent upwards of five hundred carcasses to New York and other cities—a considerable number having been shipped to Troy. The price of deer's meat, by the carcase, is from twelve to fifteen cents per pound.

LONE WHILE HUNTING.—Mr. Wm. H. Bent, while hunting for game recently in the San Leandro Mountains, with his rifle on his back, started for home, but his way and wandered through the canon of San Francisquito, lost his way and wandered through the canon all night. Next day he was found by a horseman where he had sunk to the ground overcome with fatigue. He was removed to a ... and resuscitated, and on the same day started for ... Francisco, but again lost his way and perished.

GOOD SHOOTING.—Mr. John Kuns, of Cass County, Mich., is seventy-two years old, and yet is a capital marksman with a rifle. Recently he shot thirty-four hogs, at from forty to seventy yards, in front of the ear, killing each at the first shot so dead that not one of them squealed. He also shot the heads off two chickens at two or three rods. Mr. Kuns shot without glasses.

PIGEON POPPING.—On the 8th inst. a match at pigeons for a sum any a side, five double and five sing e birds each, 21 yards rise and 80 yard, was shot at South Brooklyn between David Robertson and John Cooper; the latter won by one bird, killing all.

PEDESTRIANISM.

ONE MILE RACE.

The one mile race between Jack Hurley, of Southwark, and Bob Rogers, of Chelsea, for £25 a side, the former receiving sixty yards start, took place at the Prince of Wales Grounds, Bow, London, Eng., on Dec. 19th. Shortly after the match was made, Rogers sprained the back tendon of his left leg, and had serious thoughts of forfeiting, but having consulted an eminent medical man, he soon recovered, and the match progressed smoothly until the fourth deposit, when Hurley forfeited, but his opponent consented to forego the forfeit on receiving half the amercement (£240), and the match again progressed to a satisfactory termination. Before entering into the details of the race, a few particulars as to the antecedants of the men may not prove uninteresting. Hurley completed his twenty-third year on last Christmas day, stands 5 feet 8 inches and weighed 136 pounds. He has beaten Jim Condon, of Bath, in an 880 yard race, for £5 a side; beat Fitzjames, of Bath, 880 yards, for £5 a side; beat Dan Mahoney, of Bermondsey, 1 mile, for £10 a side, on Dartford Heath; and again defeated Dan Mahoney in a mile race, for £15 a side, at Brompton, on Oct. 5. He was attended by his old opponent, Dan Mahoney. Rogers was twenty-three years of age on Jan. 12th, stands 5 feet 6¼ inches and sealed exactly 126 pounds. His first appearance was about four years since, when he beat Fred Ford, of Lambeth, in a 440 yards race, £5 a side; was next beaten by Ford, who had two yards and a half start in 400, £15 a side; beat Ford, who gave him three yards in 200 £25 a side; ran a dead heat with Fred. Childs in a 100 yards race, £15 a side; was beaten by C. Sansom, of Hounslow, 440 yards, £25 a side; with seven yards start won a 440 yards handicap; beaten by J. Hudson, 880 yards, £10 a side; won the first prize, £60, in a sweepstakes of £10 each, with £25 added, distance 880 yard, beating W. Sally, of Deptford, Ben Brunell, of Hoxton, J. Hudson, of Holloway; and C. Sansom, of Hounslow; beat Joe Tuck, 880 yards, £10 a side, beaten by a fleet of foot; a 1,302 yards sweepstakes of £25 each, J. H. proved be in unable to continue, received forfeit from Darby, of Chatham; with 20 yards start ran second to F. Neary, of Hulme, who had eight yards and a half start, at the Champion Meeting at the Crystal Palace; with 130 yards start was beaten by . . . . and 110 yards start, for the Hackney Wick Two Miles Challenge Cup; received forfeit from Ike Hughes, of Manchester; received £40 forfeit from Siah Albison; beaten by Ike Hughes, of Manchester, one mile, £20 a side, and a bet of £50 a side; beat Ike Hughes, of Manchester, by 12 inches in a one mile race, £25 a side; with 23 yards start took the third prize in an 880 yards handicap; beat Jem Nuttall (the Half Mile Champion) in a one mile race, for £200; beat D. Binns, of Harden, 880 yards, for £50, at Brompton, and on the following Saturday, with 35 yards start, took the third prize, £10, in an 800 yards handicap, at the City Grounds, Manchester, having beaten T. Small, 40 yards start, and D. Binns, 25, easily by three yards in his preliminary heat. He took his exercise by shooting with Mr. Perry, the Chelsea representative, was in fair better condition, and immediately installed the favorite at 6 to 4, which odds were eagerly taken by the backers of Hurley. The referee, H. Woodstock, having informed the competitors that they would have to run four laps and one hundred and sixteen yards, to complete the distance, took up his station in the centre of the ground, and after one break away on the part of Rogers, fired the pistol, and both left their marks simultaneously. Hurley cut out the running at a tremendous pace, and at the end of the first lap had shaken about eigh yards on his opponent. In the next lap there was a perceptible difference in the pace of the leading man, whilst Rogers, although running at the same pace as in he first lap, had, on passing the starting crease for the second time, gained at least 15 yards on the "Bath chap." In obedience to the advice of his backer, Mr. W. Price, Rogers in the next lap began to increase the pace, and the commencement of the last lap found them only about a length apart, excitement now became intense, but all doubts were soon dispelled, for Rogers put on one of his well known spurts in the straight, and got within three yards of his opponent; they ran thus for another score yards, when Rogers made his final effort, and despite a gallant struggle on the part of Hurley, left him at every stride, and finished an easy winner in 4 min. 36⅘ sec. Hurley gave up thoroughly exhausted 120 yards from the tape.

LAND GOING HOME.—Owing to the lack of success which has attended his efforts to secure a match with some of our fast runners, after coming so far with that object, and seeing no prospect of doing better while with us, Bill Lang has very sensibly concluded to return to the land of his nativity, where he can always get a "quid" when he wants it. He has fixed upon Saturday, 23d inst., as the period of departure, and the City of Antwerp the good ship upon which to traverse the briny. Those who have not had an opportunity to inspect his ten mile champion belt and numerous other trophies, will have a chance to do so by dropping in at Harry Bridges' during the current week, or Jimmy Smith's, 632 Broadway, next week, where they will be upon exhibition at the time stated. Joe Carolens, who has done so much additional training and proved a staunch friend of Lang's ever since the latter's arrival upon our shores, will tender Bill a blow-out at the "Old Home at Home," 44 Congress street, Paterson, N. J., on the evening of the 21st inst., two days prior to his leaving, when it is expected a large crowd will be present to give the champion a parting shake.

1,000 MILES IN 1,000 HOURS.—A correspondent writes as follows from Chicago, under date of the 6th inst:—"John De Witt is now attempting, at the hall corner of Halsted and Twelfth streets, the feat of walking one thousand miles in one thousand consecutive hours. De Witt is in his prime, being about 43 years of age, 5 feet 9 inches high, and possessed of a physique admirably calculated for endurance. He has already accomplished more than half his great task, and promises to come out as fresh as a daisy. Five hundred dollars is pending on the issue."

GOOD FOR THE OLD MAN.—Joseph Brewster, of Duxbury, Mass., an old trigger, eighty-five years of age, walked all the way to Kingston on the 4th inst., worked hard amusing about the work on one of Mr. Holmes' vessels all day, and in the afternoon rigged the masts and crossed the royal yard of the vessel, working nearly one hundred and twenty feet above the water.

JOHNSON TO THE HERON BOY OR YOUNG.—On the 11th inst. we received a telegram from Wm. Johnson, of Akron, Ohio, stating that he is prepared to make a match to run the Hebron Boy 140 yards for $500 a side, or Wm. H. Young 250 yards for the same amount, the race to take place at Akron in two or three weeks. Will either of the parties mentioned accommodate Williams?

HARKINS IN A NEW ROLE.—Wm. E. Harding has at last got on a match, this time for life, the party of the second part being a gushing young damsel, named Miss Kate Dagon, to whom he was joined in the holy bonds a few days ago. It isn't probable that this match will end in smoke, but we presume the result will be the usual one—if not more.

JOHN L. TAYLOR, a resident of the Hub, who has a good opinion of his pedal abilities, will, it is stated, undertake to walk from the centre of Boston to Fitchburg and return within twenty-four hours, during the first week in May, upon a wager of $1,000.

ONE HUNDRED MILE FEAT.—The match made by W. F. McKitrick to walk, during the current week, 100 miles in 24 hours, the first 50 miles to be made in 10 hours, has, by agreement of all parties, been postponed until the 29th inst.

BILL LANG had a very good benefit at Hodgkiss' Hall, Boonstown, N. J., on Saturday evening, 9th inst.

BILLIARDS.

RESIGNATION OF THE CHAMPION CUE BY MCDEVITT.—As will be seen, after perusing the subjoined correspondence, John McDevitt, of Chicago, has resigned the champion cue of the pushing game, turning it over to the original donors, Messrs. Phelan and Collender, of this city, who have sent it back to him with the request to keep it as a *souvenir* of his successes, it being their intention to devise a more valuable cue, to be contested for next April, in a tournament of leading players. The new cue will represent the championship of the fair American game, *i. e.*, push shots barred.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23, 1868.

MESSRS. PHELAN & COLLENDER, New York.—GENTLEMEN.—I have the honor to submit to you, through the hands of Mr. Thomas Foley, the Champion Cue of America, believing it to be the general desire of the profession that it should be hereafter employed to reward the victors in another than the style of game which has heretofore enabled me to win and retain possession thereof.

Respectfully, JOHN MCDEVITT.

To the above Messrs. Phelan & Collender made this response:—

NEW YORK, Dec. 23, 1868.

JOHN MCDEVITT, Esq.—SIR.—We have received through Mr. Thomas Foley the champion cue.

Having in 1865 proffered this cue as a prize, subject to certain conditions, which conditions have by your act of resignation been nullified, and it now reverting to us by virtue of our having been the donors, we beg leave to return it to you, with the hope that you will value it as a memento of your several triumphs.

We have determined to get up a new one. This we are now having made, and shall offer it as a prize in the forthcoming tournament of leading players.

Trusting that you will accept as your personal property the Golden Cue, which we return to you by the hands of Mr. Foley, we are Yours very truly, PHELAN & COLLENDER.

MCDEVITT ISSUES A CHALLENGE, IS ANSWERED BY DION AND DECLINES A MEETING.—Contemporaneously with the issue of his note, formally tendering the cue to Phelan & Collender, McDevitt addressed this challenge to his fellow players:—

CHICAGO, Dec. 23, 1868.

TO THE BILLIARD PLAYERS OF AMERICA.—In accordance with a determination long since expressed, I have returned to its original donors, Messrs. Phelan and Collender, the Champion Cue of America. I now publish it to them, to meet the general desire which exists among the profession to abolish the "push shot" from champion contests—my continued possession of the cue and title having been regarded as the only obstacle to such an end.

In resigning the Champion Cue, however, I desire to convince all parties concerned that my only motive is that above expressed, and there are respectfully submit the following proposition:—

I will play any billiard player in the world the regular American four-ball game, 1,500 or 2,000 points, with 3½ inch balls, on a second size tournament standard table, for $5,000 a side, in the city of Chicago, ninety days from date of acceptance hereof.

A reasonable allowance for traveling expenses will, of course, be made to any party desired to come into this challenge; and, it is hoped, for his other, especially in regard to pl ce of playing, will be recognized by the profession of the country, since a retention of the cue the right I relinquish would oblige all competitors to meet me in the city which is my home.

The challenge to remain open for a period of thirty days from date. Respectfully, JOHN MCDAVITT.

To this Joseph Dion made answer that he would play McDevitt in Chicago on condition that the latter would play him the same game, once in his (Dion's) city, Montreal, and once in a neutral city, New York. McDevitt, as we learn by telegraph, refuses to play Dion anywhere but in Chicago.

A NEW YORK PLAYER CHALLENGES THE NINE LEADING BILLIARDISTS OF CHICAGO.—PROPOSED MATCH FOR AN AGGREGATE STAKE OF $37,000 A SIDE.—As it is to be expected, so skillful a player as Melvin Foster does not relish such language as appears below, clipped from the Chicago *Times*, nor are his friends better pleased thereat than is the player:—

"In the New York billiard match of Monday, Foster beat Dion. This is another triumph o a Yankee over a Canadian. It is also the triumph of a second or third rate player. The people of the Dominion, while they ought not to be ashamed of being beaten by a Yankee, should feel very much humiliated over their defeat by a third rate player like Foster."

With the view of ascertaining whether Foster is a first, second or third rate player, several gentlemen in this city proceeded to match him against all the first and second "raters" in Chicago, passing by the third r tes as superfluous. Foster will play Carnes, Rudolphe, and McDevitt, who are acknowledged first class players, and to play, also, Cook, Parker, Foley, Rhines, Vernouleau and Snyder, neither of whom regards himself as being less than a first rate "second class" player. The game to be either the French, the pushing, or the push barr 6, as his opponents shall elect, provided that only one style or game is fixed upon; or he will play each of the nine all three styles of game; each to be for $1,000 a side, and played in accordance with the standard code of laws as to table and balls, half way between this city and Chicago—say Buffalo or Cleveland. The first game to be played in (say) thirty days from date of Foster's concluding match with Dion, and he others on successive days, being accepted. What say the Chicagoans to this boldest of propositions?

BEATEN AT PARR.—A billiard match was played by three gentlemen at Niles, Mich., on the 6th inst., in the order of opening a new season by Messrs. Britton & Root. Britton discounted Paine in a game of 500 points one inning, and won the 365 points, which was a painful defeat for Paine.

MATCH BETWEEN B

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WRITES WORDS TO OR FOR MUSIC,
on any subject on reasonable terms. Songs and Plays translated from the German. Address BARRY ALDEN,
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The litigation concerning the ownership of the comedy of "OUR AMERICAN COUSIN" having terminated, and the right of the subscriber thereto having been confirmed, all persons desiring to perform said comedy not under the hand and seal of the subscriber, are hereby revoked, and all persons are cautioned against performing said play without her consent after this date. LAURA KEENE.
Riverside Lawn, Residence, Mass., Jan. 8, 1869. 41-2t*

"HUNTED DOWN, OR THE
TWO LIVES OF MARY LEIGH."—NOTICE.—The undersigned having sold to Miss Laura Keene the drama entitled "HUNTED DOWN, OR THE TWO LIVES OF MARY LEIGH," by Dion Boucicault, together with all the proprietary rights in said drama for the United States, Managers and others are hereby notified that all applications for rights to perform said drama must be made to Miss Laura Keene. HENRY D. PALMER,
Niblo's Garden, New York, Jan. 6th, 1869. 41-2t*

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FROM C. W. TAYLEURE.
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